IES TUESDAY APRIL;

Fough Guys in Society

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Bet Vi After Dark PHOTO LAND HAVE s with Manis Nicholson

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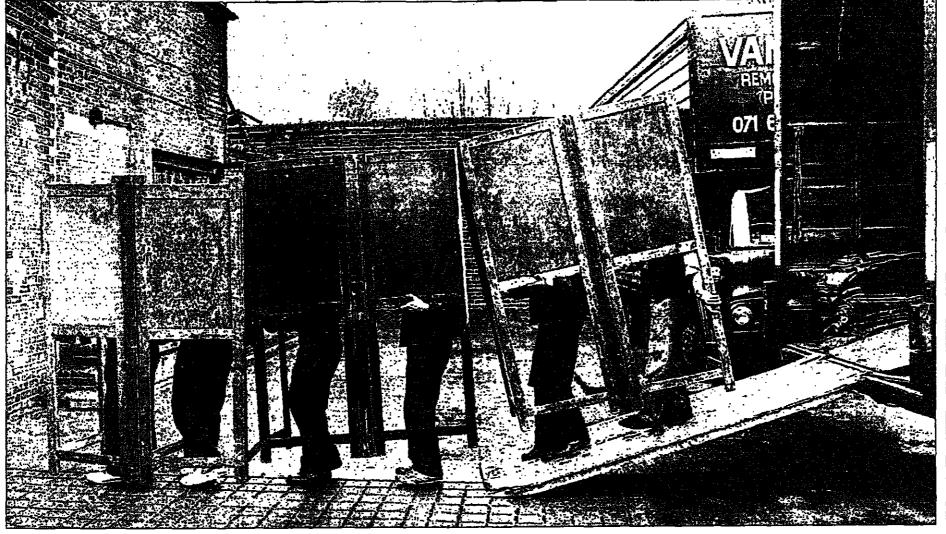
Table Annual

Bellow Transaction

Section 4

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2100 Nove :



Secret ballot: a queue of polling booths being brought out of storage yesterday ready for the electors of the London Borough of Southwark

Labour's lead trimmed in final battle for floating vote

BY ROBIN OAKLEY **POLITICAL EDITOR**

WITH 24 hours until voting starts in the general election the latest opinion poll shows that the Conservatives have reduced Labour's lead.

Last night's Harris poll for ITN measured party support at Labour 40 per cent, Con-servatives 38, Liberal Democrats 18 and others 4 per

cent.

Although the findings give Labour a two-point lead, last week's poll put Neil Kin-

INSIDE Pit bulls rip off ear

Surgeons spent four hours sewing a man's ear back on after he was savaged by a pair of pit bull terriers that escaped from a garage after tearing their way through an inch thick wooden door. The dogs, which pulled the man to the ground and bit his leg, were shot by a policemanPage 3

Souness rests Graeme Souness, the Liverpool football manager, underwent a successful triple heart by-pass operation at the Alexandra hospital in Cheadle, where he was said to be resting comfortably

Football, page 32 Miners safe

Eight miners who were trapped in a "super pit" for 15 hours by a roof fall emerged safely after rescuers dug through five metres of rock. British Coal and government inspectors are investigating what caused the cave-in.....Page 2

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LIFE & TIMES

Concise Crossword Law Report Science TV & radio...

Women....

Employers seeking chief executives, managers and other senior staff are advertising tomorrow in 11 pages of appointments in the Life &



nock's party six points ahead. Then support was measured at Labour 41 per cent, Con-servatives 35, Liberal Democrats 19 and others 5 per cent. The latest Harris figures, reproduced tomorrow on a uniform nationwide swing, would result in a hung parliament. Labour would take 319 seats, with the Tories on 290 and the Liberal Democrats on 14. However, such a calculation almost certainly understates the position of Paddy Ashdown's party. The Harris poll was

yesterday among a sample of 2,210 adults. Another poll last night, by Mori for ITV's First Tuesday programme, measured support at Labour 40 per cent, Conservatives 37. Liberal Democrats 20 and others 3

carried out from Saturday to

With turnout likely to prove a key factor in such a tight contest, the ITV poli found that 87 per cent of Labour supporters said they were certain to vote, with 83 per cent for the Liberal Democrats

EARLY exit polls showed Bill

Clinton, the leading Demo-

cratic presidential challenger, ahead in the New York, Wis-

consin and Kansas primaries

whose name was on the bal-

lots even though he did not

campaign, scored heavily among Jewish voters in New York. Pollsters predicted that

with black votes following the

Rev Jesse Jackson's lead into

the Jerry Brown camp, the

The New York primary

or-break campaign for Mr

Clinton's attempt to secure

the Democratic presidential

nomination. In a last-minute

could prove to be the make-

result could be close.

last night. But Paul Tsongas.

ELECTION REPUBLIC Campaign news, analysis and constituency profiles

Pages 7-13

Lord St John and Woodrow Wyatt... Leading article and letters .

and 79 per cent for the Tories. However, 24 per cent of Liberal Democrat supporters said they might yet change their vote. So did a fifth of the Conservative supporters and 16 per cent of Labour backers. Mori interviewed 1,065 adults on Monday and yesterday.

The latest Scottish opinion survey, by ICM for The Scotsman, puts party support at Labour 41 per cent (un-changed from last week). Scottish National Party 25 (down 2 points). Conservatives 22 (unchanged), and Liberal Democrats 11 (up 2).

Clinton leads in New York

From Peter Stothard in New York and Jamie Dettmer in Washington

governor asked for their sup-

port and launched another

attack on Mr Brown.
Mr Clinton called on his

rival to apologise for compar-

ing Arkansas to South Africa

when speaking yesterday in a

New York black neighbour-hood. "It was one of the more

gutless things I've ever seen a

politician do," Mr Clinton

said. "I think that is some-

thing he will have to answer

Mr Clinton's aides ex-

pressed cautious optimism that he would win delegate-

rich New York. A newspaper

poll yesterday also suggested

that he would win Wisconsin.

Mr Clinton is hoping for a

The ICM poll, conducted between Sunday and yesterday 7 among 1,056 people, shows a six-point drop to 31 per cent in those favouring Scottish independence while the number backing a devolved Scottish parliament is up eight points to 42 per cent. Both Labour and the Liberal Dem-

percentage favouring the Tory stance of no change in Westminster's control fell by Mr Kinnock, campaigning in the Midlands yesterday, repeated his prediction that Labour would win with an overall majority of 20 seats. John Major, also in the Mid-

ocrats back the idea of a

devolved parliament. The

lands, said that the Tories would confound expectations and sweep back to power, "i know it is going to be all right - we are going to surprise people on Thursday night." he said.

Visiting an engineering factory in Tamworth, the prime minister said: "I think people are getting the message. There is one way to vote

poor turnout could throw the

election Mr Brown's way, ac-

cording to pollsters.

A poll by the New York-based Sawyer Mill Group

yesterday suggested that Mr

Clinton was in the lead in

New York. The survey gave

Mr Clinton 38 per cent of the

vote, with Mr Brown a close

second with 32 per cent. The poli also found that

most of those backing Mr

Brown were doing so merely

to protest against the Arkan-

sas governor. Mr Brown, the former California governor, has exploited widespread

Continued on page 20, col 7

for the Conservative party and that is to vote Conservative and two ways to vote for the Labour party, one by voting Labour and one by voting

Mr Ashdown, buoyed up by the Liberal Democrats' surge in the opinion polls, last night accused the other parties of fighting visionless shabby campaigns. With the Liberal Democrats confident of sweeping successes in the West Country. Des Wilson, the party's campaign director, said he expected their share of the vote to increase. He said that the Liberal Democrats would gain more than the 22 seats the Alliance

won in the 1987 election. In their final efforts to attract floating voters, the Tories concentrated on what they saw as Labour's threat to economic recovery. Labour plumped for the health service and the Liberal Demo-crats emphasised the need to change Britain's whole system of government. Mr Ma-

jor said at a London rally last Continued on page 20, col 3

Tesco fights banks over charges

TESCO yesterday accused Britain's banks of behaving "disgracefully" over their decision to increase charges for handling direct debit cards and credit card transactions. It said large retailers were preparing to confront the banks on the issue.

The supermarket group, which announced a 25 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £546 million, said direct debit card transaction charges had, in some cases, trebled on April 1. But the banks say the increases are reasonable.

Tesco attack, page 21

course

IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yeltsin yesterday put Russia on direct collision course with Ukraine by signing a decree extending Russia's jurisdiction over the Black Sea fleet. His move came barely 48 hours after President Kravchuk, of Ukraine, had issued a decree declaring the fleet to be under his jurisdiction.

In a further sign of rising tension, aircraft from the disputed fleet, operating from an inland landing strip in the Crimean peninsula, were grounded by the Ukrainian air force, Russian television reported.

decree, Marshal Yevgeni Shaposhnikov appealed to Russia and Ukraine not to allow passions of nationalism and great-power chauvinism to be ignited. The marshal. who became commander-inchief of the armed forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States when Mikhaii Gorbachev resigned as Soviet president and commander-in-chief of the Soviet army, conceded that the break-up of the four-million strong former Soviet army could not

now be avoided. be divided.

Path to reform, page 15

Yeltsin sets fleet collision

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY

Announcing Mr Yeltsin's

His admission paves the way for him to become either staff of the Russian army. He pointedly emphasised that he was a Russian citizen and pledged his loyalty to Mr Yeltsin. The seeds of a solution to the Black Sea dispute may lie in the fact that, for the first time, both sides admit that the fleet, and the former Soviet army, must inevitably

Mr Yeltsin's decree authorises the Russian foreign ministry and the newly formed defence ministry to open talks with Ukraine with a view to rebasing some of the 300 ships and transferring Continued on page 20, col 1

Banking on New York, p14 appeal to voters, the Arkansas big turnout in New York. A Tempus page 22 Peter Stothard, page 16 Confusion becomes the Bafta prime suspect



By MELINDA WITTSTOCK MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE controversy over allegations of vote-rigging at television's Baita awards deepened last night when four of seven judges in the best drama series category signed a public statement denying that they had voted for the winner, Grana-

da's Prime Suspect. The four insisted that they had voted for Alan Bleasdale's political drama GBH, shown on Channel 4, and issued a statement saying that they were dissatisfied with an internal enquiry conducted on Monday night at a two-hour Bafta

council meeting.

Hours before their statement, Richard Price, Bafta chairman, had officially declared the dispute "closed" and con-firmed that the award to Prime Suspect would stand. He said that votes had been tallied in accordance with normal procedure, before being verified by Tony no irregularities, he said.

The four judges said: "As far as we are concerned, the matter is not closed." They criticised Bafta for not including them in its investigation, and called for an immediate meeting with Mr Byrne. The four — Ross Devenish, a South

African film director, Louis Marks, a producer; David Reid, a scriptwriter, and Archie Tait, head of development for Zenith Productions - said that they found the award to Prime Suspect two weeks ago "inexplicable". "We recognise Prime Suspect as a very fine piece of television drama. We fear, however, we must make it clear that, in an undeclared ballot, on a jury of seven, our votes were cast for GBH," they said.

Mr Byrne said that the secret ballot papers given to him by Irene Shubik. chairman of the jury, showed four votes for Prime Suspect and three for GBH. Ms Shubik, as chairman, did not vote.

Byrne, Bafta's director. There had been The four judges asked yesterday to see their secret ballot papers to clarify the discrepancy, but Mr Byrne said that they have been destroyed. Ms Shubik has refused to comment.

The judges said that they had been led to believe during a telephone conversa-tion with Mr Byrne on March 25, three days after the awards ceremony, that the ballot papers were still in existence. Mr Byrne insisted that the ballot papers had been destroyed "before this matter arose". He said that he would be happy to meet the four.

On Friday, Mr Bleasdale said: "I don't mind losing in a fair contest. But I can't accept it if cheating was involved."

GBH won the best drama category at last week's Broadcasting Press Guild awards. Lynda La Plante, the writer of Prime Suspect, said: "Winning the [Bafta] award was the most important moment of my career. But if it is wrong, we should go for another vote."

ELECTION 92 WITH THE TIMES



After all the promises, pledges, bluster and blarney, the nation will tomorrow decide the battle for Number 10. As always. The Times is bringing all the news and views of the people and policies that matter, expert commentary and analysis - with a touch of humour to leaven the mix. Now, more than ever, it is time to keep our wits about you

TODAY

Constitutional conundrum: What if nobody wins? Lord St John of Fawsley looks at what the Queen can do :

Plus Matthew Parris on the smiling silence of Neil Kinnock, the leader with a ring of confidence



TOMORROW



The country decides: the last Mori poll of the campaign plus an eight-page supplement with full colour constituency map and all you need to know about the seats, the candidates and their chances to guide you through the longest night of the year

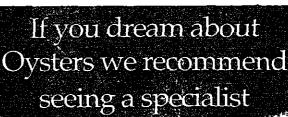
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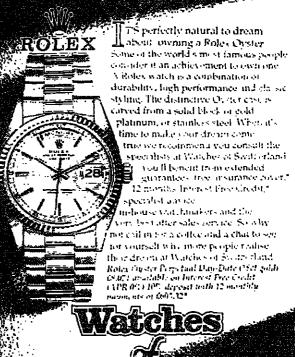
In the swing: As votes are counted in the 651 constituencies, we'll be there to bring you the fullest results service complete with details of the swings, as well as all the drama, tears and laughter as winners and losers learn their fate



SATURDAY

Day of reckoning: How safe are the leaders? Can Smith or Heseltine mount a challenge? Who will be in the new cabinet? What will be in the Queen's speech? For all the results and ramifications, don't miss the 16-page supplement in our bumper paper on Saturday when our unrivalled news and leisure service will be combined with a 12-page special to mark the 350th anniversary of the civil war. A vital issue for the vital issues







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Thinning ozone layer over Europe alarms climate scientists



SCIENTISTS expressed alarm yesterday over new figures showng that the ozone layer over the Northern Hemisphere is thinner than ever before. Had the winter been longer or colder an ozone hole might have appeared like the one over the Antarctic, exposing northern Europe and North America to increased risks of skin cancer and blindness.

"We're running out of time," said Neil Harris, of the European Ozone Secretariat in Cambridge, announcing the figures of ozone loss gathered by the 17-nation European Arctic Stratospheric Ozone Experiment. Joe Farman, the British scientist who first identified the ozone hole over Antarctica, said: "It confirms that we are taking risks with the environment." He urged governments to speed up the phasing-out of ozonedestroying chemicals such as the chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) used

in refrigerators. Mostafa Tolba, executive director of the UN Environment Programme (Unep), formally proposed that the ban on CFCs agreed under the Montreal Protocol should be advanced by four years to the beginning of 1996.
Britain, the US and the EC have already agreed to the earlier dead-line. Dr Harris said people should avoid the midday sun, but that he was more alarmed by the implications for the world's climate and for plant and marine life, neither of which can cope well with increased ultra-violet radiation.

The experiment data, expected to be confirmed by satellite information gathered by the US space agency Nasa, show that the ozone layer was on average about 15 per Another hole in the ozone layer would expose northern Europe and North America to increased cancer risks, Nigel Hawkes writes

cent thinner over the winter months than expected. Many monitoring stations reported their lowest-ever measurements, including a 10 per cent drop in Hohenpeissenberg. Germany, in December, and an 18 per cent drop in Uccle, Belgium, in Janu-ary, compared with long-term

Dr Rod Jones of Cambridge university's chemistry department, one of the scientists responsible, said: "The really worrying thing is that these figures show that we had the potential to have an ozone hole. In fact, one did not occur, but these warning signals mean that in another year we

could face a very serious situation." An ozone hole would increase the amount of ultra-violet light reaching the surface of the Earth, with damaging effects on crops and an increase in skin cancer and cataracts.

Three factors have been identified as contributing to the low ozone readings. High levels of chlorine compounds, derived from CFCs, were observed in January and February. In addition. the eruption of Mount Pinatubo in the Philippines had multiplied the amount of aerosol particles tenfold, mopping up the nitrogen oxides that would otherwise have inhibited the destruction of ozone

by the chlorine compounds. Finally, there were anomalous wind and weather patterns which, even on their own, might have led to ozone loss. Together, the three factors produced record low values.

During January, ozone was falling at a rate of I per cent a day. Low temperatures are necessary for ozone destruction, so in a longer or colder winter the levels might have been lower still. The worst months are now past, but fresh observations are to be mounted next winter.

The experiment team concludes: "The measurements this winter indicated the potential of the chlorine already in the stratosphere to cause large ozone loss. With the inevitability of increased ozone loading during the rest of this decade and the possibility in other years of lower temperatures later in the winter, this potential for ozone destruction could be realised in the luture.

Unep has estimated that a sustained loss of 10 per cent of the ozone would lead to between 1.6 and 1.75 million extra cataracts worldwide every year, and a 26 per cent increase in skin cancer. Speeding up the ban on CFCs would, they said, prevent 4.5 million additional cases of skin cancer and 350,000 cases of blindness.

Fiona Weir of Friends of the Earth said leading governments must take far more effective action to prevent further releases of damaging chemicals. "If the world's richest countries do not show leadership on this issue, the ozone crisis will rurn into a disaster. The cost of complacency is already far

Engineers begin enquiry into cave-in after rescuers dig tunnel through five metres of fallen rock

Trapped miners led to safety after 15 hours underground

EIGHT mineworkers trapcutting gear for fear of fire. Instead they used their hands ped underground for 15 hours were led to safety yes-terday. Engineers later moved into the pit, at Stillingfleet, North Yorkshire, to begin a search for the cause of the cave-in that trapped them.

A team from the mine's inspectorate of the govern-ment's Health and Safety Executive, with representatives from British Coal and the miners' unions moved into the underground roadway where the fall occurred, a mile from the pitshaft bottom. Their report is expected in about a month.

The rescue from one of Britain's most modern pits shortly after 8.00am yester-day had relied on the old mining techniques of pick, shovel and sweat. At one stage, rescue workers stripped to the waist in rising temperatures, struggling in a gap less than 3ft high and 18 inches

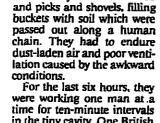
British Coal had expected to release the men soon after a 50-metre section of the roof fell in at 4.45pm on Monday. But efforts to reach them were stalled for almost eight hours during the night by a huge boulder and twisted steel pit props blocking the last two

The rescuers could not use help and hacked open a com-

BR denies

plan for

closures



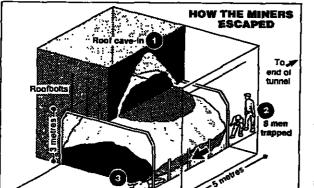
were working one man at a time for ten-minute intervals in the tiny cavity. One British Coal official described it as "a very gritty Turkish bath". Rescue seemed near in the early hours of the morning

when the trapped men man-aged to pull the boulder clear it, as they did so, more debris from the roof poured into the gap, blocking their escape. Eventually, just after 8.00am, the hole was big enough again for them to

The men — six miners, an engineer and a deputy or supervisor — had been open-ing up a new coal face when the 12ft-high roof gave way without warning. The men were about 500m away. working at the blind end of the tunnel

Although debris littered a large area of the roadway, only about five metres were completely blocked.

The men, who were unin-



pressed air line, used to power cutting equipment, to provide some ventilation.

Within an hour, the rescuers had poked a hole through to them, but difficulties with huge pieces of debris made it difficult to enlarge. The men sang to keep up their spirits and helped to speed up their release by attacking the rock from their side.

By mid-evening the rescu-ers had enlarged the gap so that they could shake hands with the trapped men and pass through their first food for several hours: beef and turkey sandwiches and cartons of orange juice.
It was at that point that

hopes rose for an early release, but then the rescuers encountered the giant boul-der blocking their path. At first, they tried to burrow

beneath it and then over the top. For several hours, the escape tunnel made no forward progress and the trapped miners were ordered to switch off all but one of their helmet lights to conserve

Eventually, the path was cleared and the eight were given medical checks at the scene by a doctor and nurse who had gone down with the

showers and downed several cans of lager to wash away the dirt inside before going straight home to their fam-

Ken Capstick, vice-presi-dent of the National Union of Mineworkers in Yorkshire, said that it had been a magnificent effort by the rescue team, and the trapped men were in good spirits. They were fit and well, although extremely tired.

Coal's area director, said that the rescue had been difficult and dangerous and carried out under the most awkward of circumstances.



All-night effort: union leader Ken Capstick, right, leaving the pit with one of the rescuers yesterday

Human costs cast shadow on future

THE rescue of the eight vances in pit safety and underground rescue techniques over the past decade.

It also shows that the cost of coal can be tragically high. Many within the industry were also saying yesterday that it is a cost which makes the industry unattractive for

privatisation. The rescue operation involved men from the area Mines Rescue Service, all coal-face workers who have Alan Houghton, British undergone intensive training

in first aid and the use of breathing apparatus and cutting and lifting equipment. British Coal is proud of the progress it has made in pit British Coal's safety record is high but the muushy remams a nazaruous one **David Young** reports chilling statistics

safety over the past few years and says that coal mining is now less hazardous than at any time. Before nationalisation an average of 2,000 lives a year were lost in coal-min-ing. In 1947, the first year of nationalised coal, 618 men

were killed in pit accidents. Last year there were 12 coalfield deaths but according to Health and Safety Executive figures, in terms of serious and fatal injuries per 1,000 workers, mining is still Britain's most hazardous occupation. There are more deaths and injuries in the construction industry, but in proportion to numbers involved coal mining still has more deaths and serious inju-

ries than any other industry. The annual rate per 1,000 workers in all industries is 0.9. In mining it is 8.4. Construction has 2.89 fatal and major injuries per 1.000 workers; agriculture 1.6; energy 2.4; forestry 2.8; and the

chemical industry 1.57.

The executive's figures disclose that the proportion of death and major injuries per 1,000 workers within British Coal is rising. Figures since

the miners' strike of 1984-85 1990-91. In 1989-1990 there were 19 deaths in the industry, including those in licensed private pits. Last year there were 12.

That reduction in the death rate, British Coal insists, is a true reflection of the fact that the industry is becoming safer. The company says the number of people involved in serious accidents has dropped from a high of 982 in 1986-87 to 510 last year.

The unions oppose changes being made in working hours agreements, which they say are to prepare the industry for privatisation but which are affecting safety.

Soccer riot case will go ahead

The case against 19 Manchester United supporters facing riot charges will be pursued, the Crown Prosecution Service said vesterday.

prosecution could not appeal against a judge's refusal to from behind screens. Greater Manchester Police said that the trial might collapse if undercover officers who infiltrated an alleged group of soccer hooligans were not allowed to protect their iden-

tities while giving evidence. But the CPS said it intended to pursue the case and will ask for it to be listed as soon as possible. It is believed the prosecution can make a fresh application to the trial judge for the officers to be screened from view. The 19 defendants face charges including conspiracy to riot, riot and caus-ing violent disorder.

Teenaged gang robs post office

robbed a post office vesterday included a boy aged 13 or 14 and a girl, police said. The gang escaped with a "sub-stantial sum" from the post office in Easton, Bristol.

There were two staff members but no customers in the shop during the morning raid. One of the gang is thought to have had a weapon hidden in a plastic bag. He used it to smash a hole in a security screen before demanding cash. The money was pushed through the hole

Activists admit

Animal rights activists claimed responsibility yester-day for an arson attack that destroyed Becher's Brook, the

The fire occurred on Sunday night as security at Aintree wound down after the race on Saturday. Robin Webb, of the Animal Liberation Front, said the claim was made by a woman who telephoned his home. "I would imagine Becher's Brook was chosen as the most infamous of the jumps which has caused the suffering of

A rugby player was yesterday cleared of fracturing an oppo-nent's skull during a match. The case at Leeds Crown Court against Kevin Carr, the Upper Wharfedale lock for-ward, was halted after two team-mates said another player had hit Keith Astbury. the Wetherby prop forward. Recorder Benjamin Nolan ordered a police inquiry after

Back on the air

Radio Caroline, the former pirate station, was legally back on air yesterday after winning a four-week commu-nity radio licence. The station on the Ross Revenge, berthed in Dover harbour, Kent, burst into life at midnight. Its output can be heard in Dover and surrounding areas. The pirate station operated for 27

£10,000 reward

The Post Office is offering a £10,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of two armed raiders who fired a shotgun at a screen during a raid on a post office in Shoreditch High Street, east London, yesterday hitting a woman employee with glass and pellets. The two men took an undisclosed sum of money. The woman, thought to be in her twenties.

ITV licensees fail to agree new scheduling system

By MICHAEL DYNES TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH Rail yesterday dismissed claims by rail union officials that large sections of the network would have to be shut if the industry were privatised under a new Conwork budget. servative government. Loss-making lines in Eng-

land and Wales would be closed and more than a dozen InterCity services demoted to regional status, union officials said. The cuts would mean the closure of about 255 stations and the loss of 30,000 jobs, they added. The threatened lines were

said to include those between Exeter and Barnstaple and between Newquay and Par in the South-West, Lowestoft and Ipswich and Norwich and Sheringham, in East Anglia. and between Shrewsbury and Dovey junction and between Aberystwyth and Pwllheli, in North Wales. The InterCity lines named included those between London and Norwich, Colchester and Ipswich, and Leeds and Bradford, officials said.

Jimmy Knapp, the rail union chief, said that the "specire of Beeching" had returned. Rail officials insisted that the documents purporting to show a BR privatisation list were full of errors and had no official status.

NEW Channel 3 licensees ITV's ratings lead over BBC1 could failed yesterday to reach agreement on arrangements for the commissioning and scheduling of networked programmes after last-minute

wrangling over programme pricing and the size of each company's contribution to the annual £500 million net-The Independent Television Commission had planned to publish details of the new system yesterday, but was forced to call off its press conference after the ITV com-

panies failed to agree the final

terms of the new network

supply contract and programme licence. "We just aren't ready, but not because there have been any major disagreements. There are just some niggly little points that need sorting." David Shaw, the ITV Association chairman, said. "The documents are so damn complex they need careful legal scrutiny. We are not dragging our heels at all,"

Originally the new central scheduling system, which will end the ITV programme supply cartel next year by allowing Britain's 900 independent producers to compete directly with the broadcasters, was meant to be agreed and approved by the ITC on

January 31. Although the principles of

be jeopardised by programming delays, writes Melinda Wittstock

the new system were agreed with the ITC two weeks ago. the ITV Association said yesterday that the new system will not now be in place until late this month or early May.
Only then will the companies be able to begin to choose the executives who will ultimately decide what programmes appear on the ITV

ITV said it was no longer looking for a "super-scheduler". opting instead to split the important job between two executives after two candidates best suited to the job. Michael Grade, Channel 4's chief executive, and Greg Dyke, LWT's chief executive, turned it down. The companies plan to hire a chief executive to administer commissioning and scheduling and a programme director to handle day-to-day scheduling. They would be joined by a team of commissioning

Those now being considered for the central scheduling jobs include Paul Bonner. the ITVA's programme plan-

ner, and directors of programming at a number of ITV companies, including LWT's Marcus Plantin, York-shire's John Fairley and Cen-

tral's Andy Allan.
From May, the Office of
Fair Trading will have six months to ensure the new arrangements are fair and competitive. Programme-makers vester

day said they feared the delay could be detrimental to the network, as it would again postpone commissioning for ITV's autumn 1993 schedules. That could jeopardise ITV's ratings lead over BBC1. However, the new licensees already have interim arrangements in place for the first nine months of next year. Disagreements persist as to how much the big nine independent television companies

should subsidise the smallest six. It has not yet been decided how much of a discount the smaller companies should on networked programmes. It is understood there is still

some haggling over how much each of the larger companies should contribute to the overall network budget. At the time of last October's widely criticised blind-bid auction, it was feared that the wide gap between cash bids - from Central's £2,000 to Yorkshire's £37.7 million would inhibit agreement.

Detector sniffs out **Semtex**

By Nick Nuttall Technology CORRESPONDENT A CHEAP, portable bomb

detector that can detect a range of explosives, including Semtex, one of the most difficult to identify, has been developed by a British firm.

At the heart of the Viper device, which weighs less than 40lbs, is a unit that sweeps high volumes of air through to a filter where explosive chemicals are trapped. The design means that 60 times more air is swept through than conventional detectors, Richard Wheelton, of the Cambridge

company Ai, which developed

£100,000 and several million

the device, said.

The filter is fitted to another part of the unit where trapped chemicals are anaonly break they will have for lysed giving a read-out in some time and one which seconds. The high volume of air swept through means that they can calculate the cost even the low pressure chemicals given off by a 300 to 500 gramme Semtex bomb can

be detected if the explosive is n non-hermetically sealed bags.
Mr Wheelton said that Viper, which will be launched in Britain and America next golf, clay pigeon shooting and horse riding. month, will cost about £15.000. Bigger conventional devices cost between

on ultimate break By HARVEY ELLIOTT, TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

Hotel puts price

WHATEVER happens tomorrow, the Gleneagles ho-tel fully expects to clean up as the seriously rich either drown their sorrows or celebrate in style with Britain's most expensive package

The luxurious Scottish hotel yesterday launched its "Heaven Can Wait" fiveday package costing £4.625 a head and will have staff waiting by the telephone for the expected flood of post-election bookings. Neil Woodcock, the hotel's marketing director, said: "Despite the reces-

sion, there are still people who can afford to pay a realistic price for a five-day They want to do something which they know will take all the hassle out of what will probably be the

precisely well in advance." For the £4.625, guests will have to make their own way to either Edinburgh or Glasgow airport to be met there by the hotel's Rolls-Royce for the journey to Gleneagles. They can use any of the sporting and leisure facilities, including

A private helicopter tour of Scotland is included,

with a presentation bottle of whisky with the client's name on the label, after-noon tea with Lady Mans-field at Scone Palace and four nights in the hotel's best suite, the Royal Lochnagar. The price cov-ers all food and drink, in-

ers an lood and utilis. In-cluding a picnic in a remote but picturesque spot. Mr Woodcock has of-fered the holidays for sale in America and although no takers have yet signed up takers have yet signed up he is confident that the handful of people who are prepared to pay for a really individual travel experience wili come.

The Lochnagar suite is being reserved for the rest of the year for the "heaven can wait" holidaymakers, many of whom are expected to come from Britain. For those not quite as

ready to splash out the best part of £10,000 for two, however, the travel trade has dozens of offers open which they expect to sell quickly after the election.

Rosemary Astles, marketing director of Thomson Holidays, said pre-election sales were down at least 30 per cent down but once the uncertainty was ended "we fully expect to see sales up by as much as 50 per cent. provided there is no hung parliament, which will only add to the uncertainty".

A trial appeared to be in doubt after the High Court ruled on Monday that the

Three masked teenagers who

Becher's attack

most formidable fence on the Grand National course.

many horses," he said.

Player cleared

allegations of a cover-up into how Mr Astbury was injured.

years before being silenced in April last year by the 1990 Broadcasting Act.

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tant than their work. The

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student remained in educa-

tion, especially for those on

Further education and

sixth form college leavers

made a better impression at

interview than their counter-

parts from secondary schools.

All were seen as less commit-

ted than other employees

once they had stanted work.
Only 7.6 per cent of Alfred
Marks's clients responded to

the questionnaire, suggesting

to the researchers that educa-

tion represented a low priori-

ly for most firms. However,

the sample covered a wide

variety of companies, in terms

of age, industrial sector and

liminary results of a larger

survey by the government-lunded Adult Literacy and

Basic Skills Unit, which show

that 13 per cent of employers

believe their workers' numeracy and literacy to be

barely adequate, or worse.

Almost 30 per cent of the

40,000 companies surveyed

were concerned about the standard of written English

The findings mirror pre-

vocational courses.

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EDNESDAY APRILY

Pit bull terriers rip off man's ear after escape from garage

By Stewart Tendler, crime correspondent

TWO pit bull terriers broke loose from a garage and ripped off an ear from a man

who was passing by.
The dogs turned on police who arrived outside the garage in South Ealing, west London, early yesterday morning to find one animal with George Daszczuk's head was attacking his feet. Officers used truncheons to try to get the dogs off their victim. The animals were shot by an officer from an armed response vehicle who was called

The garage owner was later released on police bail last night after being questioned. The two guard dogs are be-lieved to have been kept in the cab of a truck and tore their way through an inch-thick wooden garage door. The garage is set back from the road among terraced houses. The dogs attacked Mr

Daszczuk, aged 40, who was visiting his girl friend's flat, when he went to see what was causing the noise. Mr Daszczuk, a communications consultant from Kensington, west London, was taken to Mount Vernon hospital near Rickmansworth for emergen-cy treatment. His severed right ear was found at the scene by police and taken to the hospital. In four hours of micro surgery, surgeons sewed back the ear. It will be five days before they know if it

Register holds 6,500 animals

brought in last year in re-sponse to public concern at the risks from pit bull terriers and other fighting dogs, has resulted in 6.500 animals being registered. These dogs have met requirements in-cluding neutering, marking with a microchip and identifying tattoo, and having third party insurance cover.

The number of pit bulls is unknown but when the act was introduced 8,200 dogs were notified to index keepers. The Home Office believes 1,000 dogs have been put down or exported. As work on the index is completed, local police will be told of 700 dogs outstanding and begin checks on owners.

The act creates a number of criminal offences surrounding the animals, which must be muzzled in public and be 16. Owners must also ensure dogs do not stray and police may seize animals and seek a court order to destroy them.

Ownership of an unregistered animal can bring a maximum penalty of £2,000 and/or six months in jail. If a dog is dangerously out of control in public similar penalties are available to the courts.

In London, the index was notified of 1.984 animals. Inspector Mark Matthews, who is monitoring the act for Scotland Yard, said that 55 animals, mainly pit bulls, have been put down on court orders and another 100 destroyed after being surrend-ered to police. He said that most dangerous dogs police were being asked to deal with under the act were not pit bulls and the breed was being

seen less often in public.

Mr Trowbridge said of the bull terriers: "If they are guard dogs they must either have a handler or be tethered. We believed these dogs are registered."

garage where they were kept.

was curious to see what was

et. The next thing I knew, my

Mr Daszczuk said that he

in but telephoned the police.

As Mr Daszczuk made his

way back to the flat the does

ran down an alleyway wards him. "One of them

jumped up and bit off my ear

then they pulled me to the ground." He said one of the

does was about a year old and

wasn't really frightened and I

overcoat which probably

saved me from even worse injuries.
"I couldn't believe what

was happening. I've got a chunk of calf missing. One of

them chewed it off and swal-

lowed it and I'm covered in

gashes where they bit into me. There are big gaps of flesh in

Theresa Brown, aged 21,

whose house overlooks the

garage, said police beat at the

dogs with truncheons but

they would not let go of their

victim. "They had to drive the car right up to the dog with

their lights and sirens on."
She said the dogs were shot

Superintendent Keith

Trowbridge said that a police marskman fired six shots from an automatic rifle into

from about 15 yards away.

my skin."

about to escape."

A three-man team led by consultant plastic surgeon David Gault performed the operation on Mr Daszczuk. Stephen Leivers, the director of operational services, said that Mr Draszczuk also had lacerations to his left ear and the left side of his face, wounds on both arms, his chest, left and right calves and the right leg. He was also suffering from acute shock. "His wounds are horrific and numerous micro stitches were needed to fix them, but he is not in any danger now."

He said Mr Draszczuk would probably be released in a week's time. Asked if he would be scarred for life, Mr Leivers replied: "I leave you to draw your own conclusions."



Battle ends: Joy Court, whose campaign changed police selection policy

Police pay for barring woman from CID job

By CRAIG SETON

A WOMAN police officer has won substantial compensation for sex discrimination from Derbyshire police and an apology from her chief constable after proving that her attempts to become a detective were blocked by a quota system operated within the force's criminal investigation

department. WPC Joy Court, aged 36, tried for five years to win a transfer to the CID, where her husband works, but was rejected. She became a detective last year but continued an action for sex

The Police Federation, which took up her case, said yesterday that she had been awarded a substantial fourfigure sum in a settlement with the force negotiated by Acas, the arbitration service.

John Newing, chief constable of Derbyshire, yesterday said that the force was reviewing its policy over CID attachments to ensure that there was no further dis-crimination. He said: "Senior management of the force took the view that there was statistical evidence to show a quota system was in operation within the CID and that PC Court had been

disadvantaged.
"People within the force have to appreciate that equal opportunities policies mean just that. In the future, people will be selected for posts on merit, regardless of gender or race." Geoffrey Towle, secretary

of the Derbyshire branch of the Police Federation, said yesterday that an unofficial quota system had operated within the CID to restrict the tives. No more than two women were allowed to work on any sub division. "This was an unwritten system. There was nothing in the force's policy to allow it to happen. It was openly talked about in CID but the problem was, nobody was prepared to address it. Women were not being judged equal-

ly with men."
Mr Towle said senior officers within the CID "were content to operate this system and it was allowed to continue". The police service was male-dominated and there were difficulties for

WPC Court, an officer for 17 years, is now a detective in the Full Street station in Derby. She and her husband have no children. Last year, the number of officers in the Derbyshire

force was about 1,770, of which 177 were woman. There are 212 male detectives and 33 women. The Metropolitan police said yesterday that it had an equal opportunities policy. Of its 28,000 officers, 3,734 were women and its CID had 3,817 male and 277 female officers. A recent police conference

on equal opportunities heard other evidence of discrimination against women in the police. A female officer wanting to join a motor-cycle course was told she first had to prove she could lift a heavily loaded 1,000cc machine left lying on its side. although no male officers had to pass the test.

Employers fear schools neglect literacy skills

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

EMPLOYERS believe that standards of literacy and numeracy, the basic educational skills they most value, are slipping because schools are devoting too much attention to computing and word

processing.
Almost two-thirds of the 227 companies surveyed last month by academics at Kingston Polytechnic reported that these skills had declined over the past five years. Communication skills had also worsened among school leavers recruited by the firms.

Although the same propor-

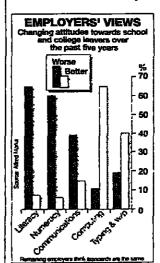
tion had noted an improvement in computing skills, most employers provided their own training tailored to particular systems. Increased competence in typing and word processing also left em-

ployers largely unimpressed. Many firms were so concerned about their young employees' literacy and numeracy that they were offering remedial classes. However, Nick Turner and Steve Smith, who did the research for the Alfred Marks employment agency, calculated that communication and team skills were in most demand.

Their report, Britain's Edu-cation, says: "The traditional-ists' call for a straightforward refocusing of teachers' efforts on the basics does not appear to be what business is asking for." Only literacy came out ahead of communication skills in the employers' scale

of priorities. Dr Smith said yesterday The evidence suggests that business is extremely dissatis-fied with a whole series of skills, although people always look at the past through rosetinted spectacles. Schools seem to have responded to a demand for better skills in information technology only to find that employers' priori-

ties have shifted." More than half the firms said that school leavers were badly prepared for work, failing to adapt to an office regime and considering their outside activities more impor-



among applicants for jobs. **QC** pledges to contest extradition

The chairman of the Bar Council pledged yesterday to refer the case of Britain's longest-serving extradition prisoner to the home secreiary immediately after the

Gareth Williams, QC. joined more than 60 candidates of all parties to highlight the plight of Lorrain Osman, in his seventh year at Brixton prison, south

Mr Osman, aged 60. a millionaire barrister, is fighting extradition to Hong Kong on £452 million fraud charges, which he denies. He says that he fears he will not get a fair trial in the colony. He has applied seven times on various grounds for a writ of habeas corpus but on each occasion has failed.

general election. I will take up this case with the home secretary," Mr Williams said.

Girl injured at car race dies

A girl aged nine died yesterday three days after being hit by a wheel at a stock car race meeting. Charlene Kingston, of Coales, Cambridgeshire, had been watching the racing at Wisbech with her father when a wheel flew off a car and bounced over safety barsuffered severe head injuries. The wheel is believed to have come free when a car axle snapped.

Police and local environmental health officers are investigating the incident. which happened on Saturday

Tamil ends fast

A Tamil prisoner was recovering in hospital yesterday after ending a 55-day hunger strike in protest at his murder conviction. Kulasingham, 35, abandoned his strike after Kenneth Baker agreed at the weekend to a full investigation of his case. Mr Kulasingham was convicted four years ago after a firebomb attack on a house in east London in which three other men died.

Body in house

A couple viewing a house in Chatham, Kent, which they were about to buy, found the body of a young man hanging from the rafters in the loft. The dead man was named as James Lennox, aged 22. Police said there were no suspicious circumstances surrounding his death. A spokesman for Harrisons, the estate agents, said that the couple had pulled out of the house purchase.

Boy spotted

Kerry Needham of Sheffield was told yesterday that her son Ben, leared dead on a Greek island, is alive. The fair-haired two-year-old. missing for six months, was seen with two women by Greek police on the island of Kefalonia, not far from the holiday island of Kos where Ben disappeared while playing. Police are now treating the disappearance as a kidnap inquiry.

The victim: Mr Daszczuk in hospital yesterday **Minerals** extractors look north

By NICK NUTTALL TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

ENVIRONMENTALISTS said yesterday that increasing numbers of sites in Scotland could be turned over to minerals extraction as quarrying companies seek less politically sensitive locations north of the border.

The warning, issued on the day that a public enquiry opened in Frome, Somerset, into plans to extend Whatley quarry in the east Mendin Hills, follows a series of recent proposals and planning applications for sites, mainly in western Scotland, for vast "super" quarries.

Groups such as the Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) and Friends of the Earth Scotland, believe these Scottish proposals signal an attempt by companies which extract gravel, rock, limestone and other construction minerals to transfer operations to remote areas as opposition grows to their operations south of the border. Local and national campaigns have been launched against planning applications after recent forecasts indicating a 66 per cent rise in minerals demand between now and 2011.

"It is be going to become harder and harder for the companies to get planning permission in England and Wales and they appear to setting their sights on more remote locales in Scotland," said Ben Plowden, CPRE's minerals campaigner.

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Asthma enquiry to study role of drugs

Hospital cases treble in ten years

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

A BIG enquiry into the high rate of asthma deaths is to consider whether modern drug treatments are making the disease worse and increasing the risks for sufferers. The enquiry, launched yes-terday by the National Asth-

ma Campaign's UK task force, will try to explain why the disease appears to be getting worse when effective drug treatments are more widely available and used. Hospital admissions for

asthma have trebled in the past ten years and risen five-fold among young children. The annual death rate from the disease rose to a peak of 2,000 in 1988 since when it has fallen only slightly. Failure to reduce the rate was serious, if not scandalous,

Donald Lane, chairman of the task force, said. Treatments for asthma, which affects two to three million people, have doubled

in the past ten years. The enquiry will consider if the disease is increasing or be-coming more severe, whether drugs to treat it may be dangerous and whether some people are not getting the treatment they need.

Evidence from abroad suggests there has been a worldwide increase in atopic disease (hypersensitivity) including hay fever and eczema as well as asthma, according to Peter Burney, reader in public health at St Thomas's hospital, London, Asthma is worse in the north, west and southwest of Britain. In developing countries it is common in the towns but almost unknown in rural areas. The reasons are unclear but Dr Burney said that pollution was unlikely to be a factor. "Pollution has got better

since the 1950s, not worse," he said. There is still doubt as to how much of the increase is due to doctors being readier to diagnose wheezy patients Researchers will examine all deaths from asthma in East Anglia, the West Mid-

lands, Wessex, Scotland and Wales. Details will be collected from doctors and relatives on the circumstances of the death, the treatment received and the severity of the illness. The enquiry will also examine the safety of the asthma drugs

and consider deficiencies in treatment

• Heart disease causes 12 million premature deaths every year and is spreading from the rich countries to the poorer ones, the World Health Organisation said yesterday in a report marking World Health Day.
Six million deaths, half the

world total, now occur in developing countries, and in the next decade heart disease will overtake infectious diseases as a cause of death in these countries. WHO said. The totals amounted to a worldclass coronary catastrophe, the Geneva-based agency said. The report said that half of deaths from coronaries and strokes could be prevented by more healthy living.

Developer had listed chapel blown up

By RICHARD DUCE

A PROPERTY developer hired a quarryman for £7,000 to damage a 19th century listed chapel with explosives after he was refused planning consent to replace the building with flats, a court was told

Torquay, Devon, had intended Steven Mann simply to

Mr Denega, of Ilsington.

Peter Denega, aged 42, of

widen cracks in the facade of of the Methodist chapel at Dartmouth, Devon, but the gelignite charge was so strong that it led to a security

Devon, planned that the explosion, in February last year, would enlarge existing cracks and lead to consent for the chapel's demolition, Plymouth crown court was told.

Andrew Chubb, for the prosecution, said: "The effect of the explosion far exceeded what they intended and the façade was destroyed."
The court was told that Mr

Denega had bought the chapel from South Hams council in 1988 and soon after was refused listed building consent to demolish it and develop 21 sheltered housing units. He won an appeal to the environment department, on condition that the original façade, with its four ionic columns, was retained.

Mr Mann admitted exe-cuting the demolition and Denga admitted causing work to be done that would result in changing or demol-ishing a listed building. They will be sentenced today.

Blot on the landscape goes from Bard to best maintaining Stratford's special

THE English car park, a leading blot on the landscape in which motorists are mugged and vehicles ravaged against the sides of narrow ramps and concrete pillars, took an uncertain step towards respectability yesterday.

The Duke of Gloucester presented the first English Tourist Board car park awards in London, a venture which means that the best of them will be able to display plaques normally reserved for historic buildings. Calling for better car parks, he said: "We expect good management in other forms of life. There's nothing more infuriating than finding car parks which don't

The awards, sponsored by Rover Cars, were launched in response to recommendations from a task force established by Michael Howard, the employment secretary, to examine the impact of tourism on the environment. They are aimed at rewarding and encouraging an imaginative and useful approach to the design, construction and upgrading of car parks.

Bridgefoot multi-storey car park in Stratford-upon-Avon won the urban award, while the village car park at Downham in the Ribble Valley, Lancashire, took the rural

In Shakespeare country, the newly immortalised parking lot, designed by Keith Pavey of the Building Design Partnership and owned by the district council, is not expected to compete with Anne Hathaway's cottage as a honeypot for sightseers. But the judges decided that the architecture and landscaping are outstandingly at- locals who are passionate about

Shakespeare's birthplace has one of the best car parks in England, writes Michael Horsnell

tractive, while there is a "sense of well-being" internally from the design and high standard of custom-With white globe lights on tur-

quoise sticks and hundreds of shrubs spilling from stone balconies, the car park, which is only yards from the poet's statue in front of the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, is certainly unusual. Before the construction of the £2.5 million 642-space development in Stratford there were fears that it would ruin the town but most

character are learning to live with Not so Linda Smith, cook at the

Pen and Parchment public house which is reputed to pre-date Shakespeare. "It's an eyesore. I can't understand why it has won an award," she said "I wouldn't park in it on principle! It's unnecessary. Pedestrianisation for tourists has taken up a lot of spaces." Hilary Justice, a shop manager, said: "This is Stratford. People come here from all over the world. It's all right but it ought to be a bit more oldie worldie. But of course it's

good for business." Christopher Hood, a GP from Oxford, and his family said they loved it. They brought a party of Belgian friends with them who all spontaneously said "Wow, this car park is great" as they drove in. The creation of the car park at Downham has transformed the beautiful stone-built village "by restoring the calmness of its visual environment and removing cars from verges and roads to one secluded location", the judges say. The council-owned car park, de-

signed by Michael Kirby and Graham Whipp, holds 38 cars and, for such a modest lot, the "quality and extent of the additional facilities is exceptional". There are lavatories and a baby room, "all of exquisite

design".
William Davis, the tourist board chairman, said: "Like it or not the car is an essential form of transport for many of our tourists. We must put our car parks where tourists need them. At the same time we seek harmony, not conflict."

Court blocks £14m sale of sports field given to town

BY FRANCES GIBB AND RONALD FAUX

SOME 21,000 residents won there could be many parks High Court backing yesterday in their fight to stop a council's multi-millionpound plan to sell for commercial development a 22acre playing field given by a local benefactor.

The council's proposals were blocked by the High Court in the first of two test cases expected to have an important impact on the protection of open spaces held by local authorities on charitable trust for the public benefit.

Residents were celebrating last night after Mr Justice Chadwick ruled that the court had no power to authorise Oldham borough council. Greater Manchester, to sell Clayton playing fields. The plan to sell the fields was opposed by 21,000 people, 4,000 of whom formed the Clayton Action Group to fight the proposals with the Open

On Monday, local residents had celebrated with fireworks, banners and a cavalcade of cars the 30th anni-versary of the gift of the 24 acres of green space.

The council is considering an appeal. It regards its scheme to sell the site to a developer for £14 million as "a unique opportunity" to upgrade recreational facilities in the area by using money raised to provide and maintain new playing fields elsewhere. A Marks & Spencer and a Safeway store and 1,800 parking spaces were

planned for the site. The Attorney-General, Sir Patrick Mayhew, QC, who was represented by counsel in the case in his role as protector of charities, was awarded costs against Oldham council, which cannot sell without court sanction.

Wendy Lutley, assistant general secretary of the Open Spaces Society, said later that

and recreation grounds given to councils by benefactors or acquired by public subscription where the wording in the deeds implied that there was a charitable trust. The society would be asking local au thorities to check deeds, take legal advice and, if appropriate, register these pieces of land with the Charity Commission to give them some

long-term protection. Jim Young chairman of the action group, said the playing fields were once a large hole in the ground bought by the late Ina Clayton, a local haulier, as a dump for millions of tons of fly ash he had contracted to remove from power stations.

By the early 1960s. Mr Clayton was a millionaire and the hole had been filled, turfed over and given to the citizens of Royton, Chadderton and Coldhurst, all districts of Oldham. The council put six football pitches on the land and the remainder became a popular open space. "It is a lovely spot on a high elevation with views over a country park in one direction, out to the Pennines in another and over the old mills of Oldham and south to

Manchester. David Shipp, director of legal services for Oldham, whose court costs are being met by the developers. Intercity, said: "It is not over yet and I think serious thought will be given to an appeal.

The judge's ruling against Oldham on the main issue in the dispute — whether the court had power to sanction a sale of the land held on charitable trust by the council meant that Oldham's case fell at the first fence. Unless the council wins on appeal, the judge will not have to consider other arguments over the merits of the sale.



Treasure trove: Brigitta Huybrejtsen of Christie's with some of the porcelain

Buyers dive for sunken treasure

FROM SARAH JANE CHECKLAND SALEROOM CORRESPONDENT, IN AMSTERDAM

THOUSANDS of porcelain items raised from the sea-bed off Vietnam were sold for up to seven times their estimated price at Christie's in Amsterdam yesterday. By the time the sale of 28,000 lots from the Vung Tau cargo ends today. it is expected to have raised about £5 million.

The morning session raised £870,575, about the sum expected for the whole day. A pair of rare beakers from the 17th century Chinese cargo sold for 44,850 guilders (£14,059), having been estimated at 6.000 guilders. Four blue and white tazze, or bowls on tall stems, fetched 32,200 guilders (£10,094). Among the most active bidders were British-based dealers and one from Taiwan.

Although dozens of lots were identical, there were often big differences in their prices. Sometimes this was due to minute differences in quality, but often the reason was what one dealer called the "last-chance syndrome". As a category began to run out, buyers panicked and prices rose accordingly. "Sometimes the last lot was half broken. and yet it fetched half as much again as the first," David Howard, of Heirloom and Howard, said. Colin Sheaf, the auctioneer. announced at the start of selling that "all lots are sold

the town closest to where it was found, was discovered three years ago by a fisherman who caught it in his nets. The Vietnamese Salvage Corporation, a statemonopoly. owned established a partnership with the Swedish diving company Sverker Hallstrom to salvage the cargo. The two companies will share the proceeds of the

Archaeologists believe that the wreck was a East Asian trading vessel bound for Batavia - now Jakarta. Indonesia -- one of the centres for the Dutch trading empire. It probably sunk one of the 14 cooking pots found on deck.

Before the auction, some dealers were fearful that Christie's was flooding the market with blue and white porcelain. Items from the Nanking cargo sale in 1986, that had been offered back on the market recently, had not fared well, they

The Vietnamese government delegation to the sale would not comment on any plans to salvage further wrecks believed to be beneath the South China Sea. Le Minh Cong, general director of the transport ministry, acknowledged the existence of further wrecks, but said: "Right now we couldn't say anything about the future. Each case we will

Kiss saves baby from bath death

A baby saved by ambulancemen after being found floating face-down in a bath was

back home yesterday. Stephen Jarve, aged four months, was being bathed by his mother Helen, aged 28, at their home in Maghull, Merseyside, when she slipped and fell, knocking herself uncon-scious. When she came to after an unknown time, the dazed mother could not see Stephen and made a panicstricken 999 call.

An ambulance crew searched the house but it was only when Mike Smith, an ambulance officer, brushed back bubbles in the bath that the baby was found unconscious. Mr Smith gave the baby the kiss of life and his colleague Mark Brooks app-lied heart massage. As the ambulance drove to hospital the baby spluttered and started to cry. His mother said yesterday: "We owe his life to the ambulancemen."

Robber jailed

David Freeland, a psychotherapist aged 58, was jailed for 14 years by Oxford crown court yesterday for armed robberies at banks in Stourbridge, West Midlands, Great Malvern, Hereford and Worcester, and Chip-ping Norton, Oxfordshire.

Howerd tonic

Frankie Howerd, the 70-yearold comedian who was admitted to the Harley Street Clinic in London last week with heart trouble, left intensive care yesterday and was moved into his own room.

Mast plan off

BT has shelved plans to build a 100ft radio mast with satellite dishes on Trundle Hill, overlooking Goodwood racecourse in West Sussex.

Firm closes Mansfield Knitwear of Hull,

part of the Coats Viyella group, is to close with the loss of 196 jobs.

Royal visit

The King and Queen of Sweden began a three-day visit to the Irish republic.

Pope refuses compromise on celibate priests

By RUTH GLEDHILL

RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Pope yesterday affirmed celibacy for the priesthood, despite pressure from Catholics in Third World countries to meet a shortage of priests by allowing married ordinands, and a belief that celibacy is contributing to a crisis in vocations in the West.

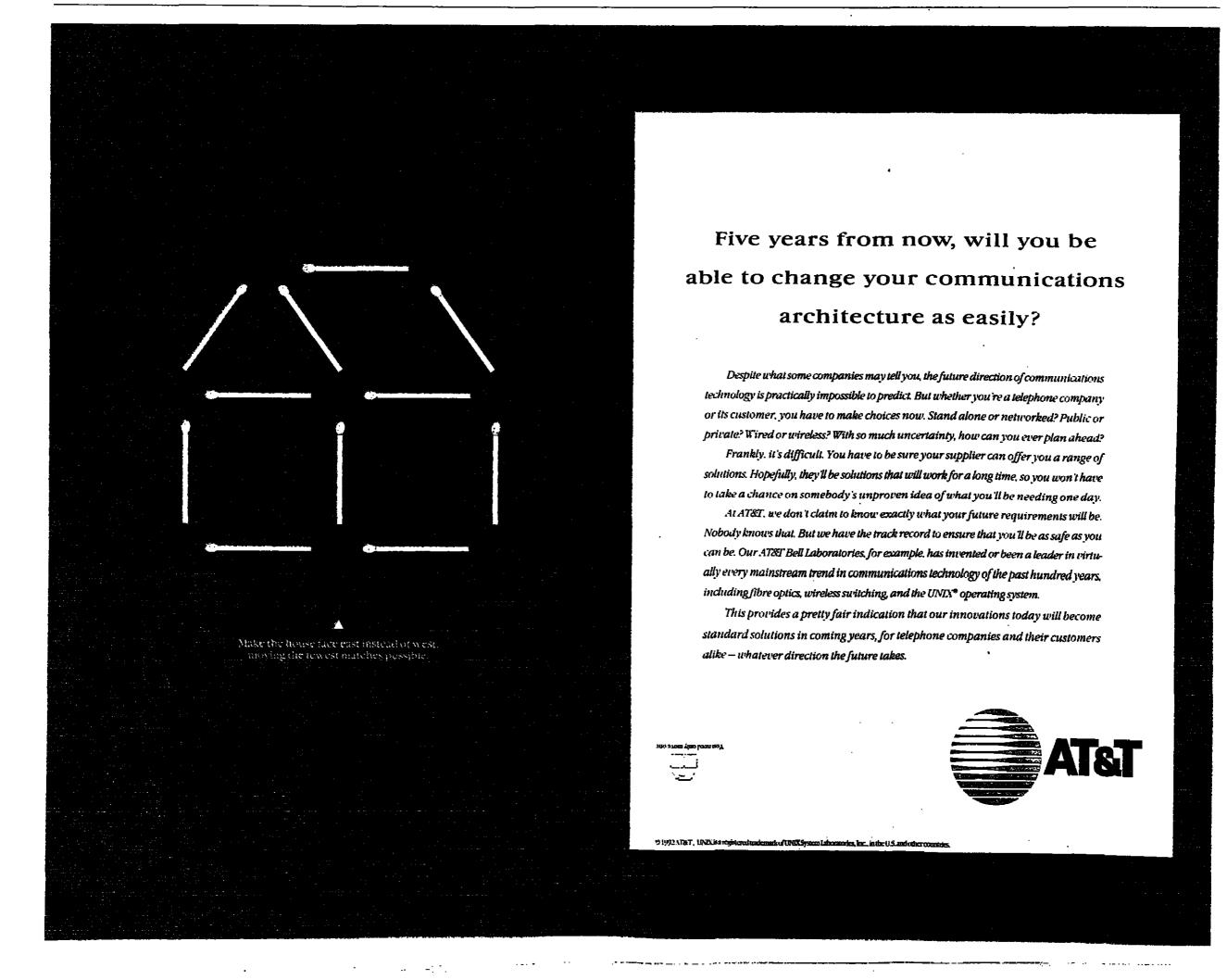
John Paul says in an apostolic exhortation: "For an adequate priestly spiritual life, celibacy ought not to be

considered and lived as an isolated or purely negative element, but as one aspect of a positive, specific and characteristic approach to being a priest." He describes celibacy as "a singular source of spiritual fertility in the world" and adds: "It is especially important that the priest understand important that the priest understand the theological motivation of the

church's law on celibacy."
The shortage in the Third World has left some priests ministering to many thousands of people over wide areas, with some communities going without a weekly mass. In Britain, the number of men wishing to become priests is in slow decline. Nearly 90 began training for the secular priest-hood in England and Wales in 1990. compared with 104 in 1989, 107 in

1988 and 144 in 1982. The Pope writes of "rejoicing at the growth and increase of priestly vocations now taking place in some parts of the world." He says that some priests are exhausted by their increasing pastoral activities and calls for systematic training throughout a priest's life.

The exhortation, Pastores dabo vobis (I will give you shepherds), was welcomed by Catholic priests in England. Monsignor Peter Smith, rector of St John's seminary, Wonersh Surrey, said that it gave "an authoritative backing to what we are trying to do in the seminaries and confirms all the work of development which has taken place over recent years."



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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY APRIL 8 1992

Firm closes

Tend on the second of the second of

Funny, when the election came around, isily. so did my operation.

> Strange, isn't it? Thirteen years of NHS underfunding. And now, all of a sudden, a frantic, money-no-object scramble to shorten the waiting list.

Of course, the more people who get their

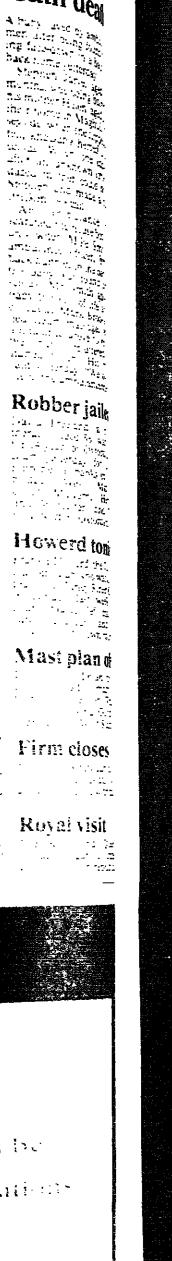
operations, the better. But does this really mean the end of NHS underfunding?

Can it be that the people responsible for the loss of a quarter of all NHS beds have really had a change of heart?

It would be nice to think so. But what date have Health Service Managers been given to achieve this reduction in waiting list numbers? April 1st. Just 8 days before the election. Now there's a coincidence.

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On other pages

Woodrow Wyatt.....16 Leading article..... Westminster property, L&T.7

THE

ELECTION 92

Wembley rally

Major sets out 'ten Tory truths' for a golden future

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major put himself at the centre of his appeal to the people last night, promising them a "golden future" if they placed their trust in him

His emotionally patriotic appeal for a personal mandate was coupled with a robust restatement of his party's philosophy — ten Tory truths — and a scornful attack on Neil Kinnock's "unprincipled

thirst for power". He said: "I have lived life in many stations. I believe I understand what makes the heart of Britain beat. What inspires all those millions of families across this land who go out each day to work and strive and create for the future. They are the people who are carrying the long, glorious story of Britain forward across the years.

This country needs a gov-

- If public opinion was the arbiter, we would not have rearmed against Hitler 9
- Michael Heseltine on opinion polls showing most Scots wanting devolution or independence
- A massacre of the innocents by the ignorant ? – John Major's vision of a Britain under Labour
- If you had asked a plumber not once, not twice, but three times to fix a leak, and you were standing in the kitchen up to your waist in wåter, would you call the same plumber to fix it
- again? 🤊 - Neil Kinnock on the Tories' three terms of office
- The people know that a vote for the Tories on Thursday is a vote for breaking up the NHS. A vote for Labour is a vote for building up the service ?
- We would be seized of our responsibility to provide the Queen

with a government ? - Des Wilson, Lib Dem campaign director

It has been a weird and insubstantial campaign.

As in one of those senseless, over-heated dreams where

something, some key to un-

derstanding it all lies just out

of reach, we are always on the

brink of discovering what it is about, until ... suddenly

we wake up. It is April 10.

There is a new government,

and nobody ever did explain

why. Why, for instance, did it

have to be April 9? Already

we have forgotten. It seemed

important at the time. And

who, as we end the cam-

One of the most Alice-

Through-the-Looking-Glass

moments came at the begin-

ning, when John Smith pre-

sented his alternative Budget. He did so in the

glare of the television lights, with Mr Kinnock, Jack Cun-

ningham, and a bowlful of

roses. Journalists assumed

that Mr Smith was there to

outline the plans, Mr

Kinnock was there to take

Hare. The leader was not

there to answer questions.

paign, is Neil Kinnock?

ernment that will nourish and sustain their ambitions, widen their choices, throw open the great gates of oppor-tunity, and help the whole nation march through.

"I have only just begun the task I have set myself. On Thursday, I ask this nation to look at my record of service and my ideals for the future, to place their trust in me, and in this party that has served them so well and faithfully. I set no bounds to my ambitions for this country or its

"I know that we have in our grasp a truly glorious future." At a rally in Wembley, north London, he said there were ten great reasons why his party would triumph.

Strong defence, a commitment to the free market, low taxation to create wealth, controlling inflation, implacable hostility to the "tyranny" of trade union power, nourishing the health and education services, spreading private ownership, privatising once loss-making state industries, and strong government were the hallmarks of Conservative government.

Mr Kinnock, by contrast, was trying to slip into Downing Street by a "back door" deal with the Lib Dems over proportional representation. "It's nothing to do with fair play. Everything to do with power play. And we will have nothing of it."

The Labour leader had jettisoned his principles and could not be trusted. "Look at PR. He was always against. Now, in the latest, most cynical change of all, he lurches towards it, grasping desperately at a prospect of power. Power before principles. Does he think the public cannot see what he's up to?

"Let Dr Major

the problem. It's the 'anything for office' syndrome. And let Dr Major prescribe there is only one known cure for this disabling condition. Five years on the Opposition

"As prime minister you meet challenges; you face crises. That's when principle and experience guide you. When no principle is so great it cannot be quietly forgotten. to what principles would the Labour leader resort when the going is tough? Labour would be a rudderless ship in a storm-tossed sea. Or they would, under pressure, slide

back to socialist type."

Mr Major's speech to the party faithful sought to answer many of the criticisms of the Conservative campaign. It offered an unflinching de fence not just of his 16 months in power but also of the upheavals since 1979. It sought to dramatise his vision of the Nineties under a Con servative government,

"I want a Britain where there is a helping hand for those who need it. Where people can get a hand up, not just a hand out. A country that is fair and free from prejudice, a classless society at ease with itself."

Mr Major scorned the socialist alternative, saying "Socialism is not a road, it's a dead end." He added: "Britain is ready

now to move forward when others are sliding backwards. All around us the signs are there. In house building, in exports, in retail sales. All that Britain is waiting for to achieve recovery is the confidence a Conservative government will bring."

Lord St John of Fawsley



Kinnock rounds on 'washed up' government

FROM PHILIP WEBSTER CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

NEIL Kinnock appealed to the electorate last night to eject a tired washed up goverment, opening the way for Labour to save the national health service from mortal danger and get Britain working again.

The Labour leader, speaking at the penultimate rally of his election campaign, said that by its vote tomorrow, the nation would decide the future of the health service. The choice facing Britain was between a Tory government of recession and privatisation and a Labour government of recovery and modernisation.

In his most ferocious attack on the government, he said: "The Tories have no new policies, no new ideas, no positive solutions, no ambition for our country. They are tired, they

are washed up. They are like

door-to-door salesmen, blue

with cold, desperate to find a customer, unable to think of a new angle I say to the British people that after all they have done they simply don't deserve to be re-elected. I simply say that these architects of recession, these engineers of rundown cannot be called upon to

build a future." Speaking in Blackburn. Lancashire, Mr Kinnock issued the strongest warning of the campaign that the NHS was in peril. He said the service where the decisions service was the benchmark of are made by doctors or a civilisation in this century. something to be cherished and nurtured, adapted and improved.

'It is in mortal danger. Its

whole future rests on the deci-

sion we take as a nation when we vote in the general election on Thursday. We can have a health service funded out of general taxation, free to everybody whenever they need it wherever they are, whatever is needed, or we can have a service split from top to bottom by a complex network of charges, of deals between patients and doctors, doctors

and hospitals, hospitals and

charities, charities and pa-

are made by doctors or a service where the decisions are made by accountants. We cannot have them

both. If you want the first kind of health service, you vote Labour. If you want the second kind of health service. you vote Tory. Let nobody in Britain be under any illusion that is what is at stake." Mr Kinnock said Labour

had campaigned on positive policies, on issues of concern to the people, homes, schools, health, law and order. It had campaigned on its policies to push back poverty and eradicate the poll tax. Above all, it had campaigned on its policies to get Britain working

INTEREST NO NOTICE. PENALTY-FREE ACCESS

ior's claim that the Tories had created a "miraculous, historic success"

Britain was the only country in Europe in recession, a country where unemployment, poverty, homelessness and crime have all doubled or more than doubled since Mr Major and his party came to government. It had been the opposite of success. "It has been a terrible costly failure. One hundred more firms going out of business every day, 300 more families losing their homes every day, 2,000 more people going home every night with the shattering news that they have just been made redundant - and the man calls it a miraculous

Defence of electoral reform

Ashdown attacks 'bully tactics'

By Sheila Gunn, political correspondent

PADDY Ashdown accused the Conservatives last night of embarking on a desperate and dangerous game by attacking voting reform. He warned voters that the Tories were trying to bully them out of support for the Liberal

Liberal Democrats will not be

- Neil Kinnock will not be allowed to drag our country down with their

stalled by the panic reaction of a failed home secretary who knows he is about to lose his job," he said.

He was prepared to debate the issue on voting reform at any time and anywhere with Mr Baker. But the Liberal Democrats would not accept "However desperate their "this ridiculous slur, this slanattacks, however weak they feel, the Conservative party der" on the decent people who wanted to modernise democracy.

Mr Ashdown said that

party as they now contem-John Major was insulting voters by telling them not to sleepwalk into the polling staplate defeat on Thursday," he told a rally in St Austell, tion. "More and more the He singled out for censure Kenneth Baker who had dis-Tories are now playing a dangerous game. They have a very simple attitude. If you don't vote Conservative, they missed PR, as a "pact with the devil". "On this issue we

Party's figurehead springs to life

a knave." For 13 years, the Conservative party had been telling everybody what to do and it was time it listened

"That way, Mr Major and his colleagues would find out where they have been going wrong. But no, their only reaction is to try and frighten you into the ballot box and to blame you for the position they are in."

The Conservatives, he said, were playing an even more dangerous card by gambling with the unity of Britain itself in claiming that the very in-tegrity of the United King-dom was only safe in their hands. "It is a desperate Tory line, but it is also a very

where John Major is hin-

dered, by fatigue. As the cam-

paign has progressed, the leader of the opposition has looked older, wearier, and

full of care. With his new

glasses, the crows' feet and

sad eyes lend him a states-man-like air. Short of a good night's sleep, Mr Major

looks testy and grey. But no party leader can

entirely escape interviews, and Mr Kinnock has fielded

his share. Here we have

glimpsed the third of his

three faces: "Kinnock the

wriggler". I watched the in-

terview with Jonathan

Dimbleby carefully. This was

a most evasive performance,

whether Major returns or not

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questions with him, Mr Cunningham was there to chair the proceedings, and the roses were there for After a few questions to Mr Smith, someone asked Mr Kinnock a question. Mr Cunningham leapt in with the demeanour of a Mad March



CAMPAIGN SKETCH

MATTHEW PARRIS

said the Hare: Would the questioner please redirect his enquiry to Mr Smith? Mr Kinnock sat there mute. He was there for decoration. If Lewis Carroll had scripted this, Mr Cunningham would have allowed the roses to answer the next

Rather like some regimental mascot, Mr Kinnock has been carried around the country, from ceremony to ceremony, smiling wordlessly for the cameras.

It is possible that the captions to the photographs were written at Walworth Road before the campaign started — the time, the place and the photo opportunity being arranged later. Neil Kinnock with smiling school children — "No, Mr Kinnock will not take questions from the press, only from the

Neil Kinnock with happy hospital patients - "No, the patients are not necessarily complaining about the NHS. but Mr Kinnock wanted to meet them anyway." Neil Kinnock with balloons —

"Yes, they're helium balloons - write that down, please, heli-u-m: no, not hot air balloons. Neil Kinnock with women - "Lots of women. women all around him, notice the women? Happy women. Get the point? Mr Kinnock likes women. Women like Mr Kinnock: Look - the women are

treat you either as a fool or as

smiling." "Kinnock the mascot" is one face, then, of the Labour leader. Dut there are three. The

bishop": for it would be wrong to say that he has been totally silent. Mr Kinnock has made a series of scripted speeches around the country. It is fair to say that these have been without content. but they have been well delivered. That head-butting neck-jerk, with which the Labour leader punctuates the more emotional passages of his text, has not been controlled: but apart from this subliminally alarming trait,

delivery has been impressive-Mr Kinnock is helped.

reminding me of someone with whom I never thought Mr Kinnock could be com-D second is "Kinnock the pared: Margaret Thatcher. Gone was the wild fingerstabbing, gone the flights of rhetorical fancy, the strings of adjectives, the menagerie of excited abstract nouns. Mr Kinnock held his head still and spoke with a strange, trance-like calm. His sentences, properly analysed, were at best unilluminating and at worst literally nonsen-

> Yes. The drug is called confidence. And it is coursing through Mr Kinnock's veins. Wriggler, bishop or mascot. he has stopped sweating. He

looks electable.

sical. Is this man on drugs?

Schools

Hospitals

Inadequate consultation on reforms

Academic outcry

Imposition without consensus approval

Opting-out of Local Authority control

Chronic underfunding

Low staff morale and early retirement

Increasing reliance on less qualified staff

Crumbling buildings and lack of maintenance

Falling standards in the face of increased demands placed by the national curriculum

Loss of extra-curricular subjects

Increasingly dependent on fundraising and charity for basic equipment

Less parental choice

Opt-out schools selecting high achievers and rejecting pupils with special needs

PARENTS DRIVEN INTO THE PRIVATE SECTOR

INEQUALITY.

Inadequate consultation on reforms

Academic outcry

Imposition without consensus approval

Opting-out of Health Authority control

Chronic underfunding

Low staff morale and early retirement

Increasing reliance on less qualified staff

Crumbling buildings and lack of maintenance

Falling standards as resources are spent on spiralling administration costs

Loss of services

Increasingly dependent on fundraising and charity for basic equipment

Less patient choice

Fundholders favouring healthier patients: loss of vulnerable community services for those with high dependency

PATIENTS DRIVEN INTO THE PRIVATE SECTOR

INEQUALITY

A POORLY EDUCATED AND LESS HEALTHY POPULATION

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Labour majority predicted

Poll contradicts Tory estimate of voting patterns

THE Conservative party has claimed throughout the campaign that the national polls are underestimating the number of seats they will win, because their vote is distributed more effectively across the constituency map than Labour's.

A region-by-region analysis of the large ICM/Press Association poll suggests the contrary. Its result for the country is Conservative 36.2 per cent (down 7.0 on 1987), Labour 38.7 per cent (up 7.2) and Liberal Democrats 20.4 per cent (down 2.7), a swing of 7.1 per cent from Conservative to Labour and of 3.3 per cent from Conservative to Labour and of the Liberal Democrats.

Repeated in every constituency, these swings would result in Conservatives 290, Labour 311, Liberal Demorats 23. Nats 10, Irish 17. Labour would be 15 short of an overall majority but could govern with the co-operation of the Liberal Democrats.

Take regional differences in swing into account and the result is: Conservatives 281, Labour 319, Liberal Democrats 21. Labour would be seven short of an overall majority and could manage without the demanding support of the Liberal Democrats: co-operation from Plaid Cymru and the Irish SDLP, which should be fairly easy to secure, would be sufficient.

The regional pattern of swings helps Labour in three ways. First, Labour's "easy" targets — the first 50 — are disproportionately concentrated in the North-West where the swing is below average but not by enough to deprive them of these easy pickings. Second, Labour's

Ivor Crewe finds little comfort for the Conservatives in this week's large national opinion poll

harder targets — in the range 51st to 100th — are disproportionately concentrated in London, where the swing is slightly above the national average. Third, Labour's hardest targets of all — from 101st to 120th — are disproportionately located in the West Midlands, where Labour appears to be enjoying a 10.7 per cent swing.

Some technical caveats about the estimates should be made. The fieldwork for the poll was conducted between last Tuesday and Friday. More recently conducted polls point to a continuing rise in Liberal Democrat support since then, at the expense of the Conservatives.

of the Conservatives.

The Liberal Democrats may well squeeze the Labour vote in the South-East and South-West — as happened in the final few days of the 1983 and 1987 campaigns — but find themselves squeezed by both parties in the Conservative-Labour marginals.

Although the margin of error is only plus or minus 5 per cent for the national figures, given the sample size of 10.460, it is at least plus or minus 3 per cent for the regional sub-samples, whose size is about 800 — the use of decimals rather than rounded whole numbers for regional vote shifts could therefore be over-precise.

Most of the estimated regional swings are corroborated by independent polls. The negligible swing in Scotland

land-only polls, the massive 10.9 per cent swing in Yorkshire and Humberside is matched by the Mori/Yorkshire Television poll of Conservative marginals and the 7.5 per cent swing in London is close to that reported in last week's Harris/LWT poll. But the below average swings in the South-West and East Anglia are lower than the regional analysis of aggregated Gallup polls — and gloomy Conservative assessments.

Finally, constituency swings can vary within regions as well as between them. Incumbent MPs, especially for the smaller parties, can defy adverse regional swings, as the constituency polls in the Liberal Democrats' super-marginal of Brecon and Radnor suggests.

Ivor Crewe is professor of government at the University of Essex.



On the run: Nicholas Witchell, the BBC presenter, prepares to run in Sunday's London marathon in aid of St John Ambulance encouraged by Dick Taverne, the former Social Democrat MP, left, Kate Hoey, Labour candidate for Vauxhall, and Richard Tracey, Tory candidate for Surbiton, right

Molyneaux demands Scottish-style deal for Ulster

BY EDWARD GORMAN IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

JAMES Molyneaux, leader of the Ulster Unionist party, said yesterday that he would vote against an attempt by a Labour government to pursue devolution in Scotland if similar arrangements were not offered to Northern Ireland.

Speaking at a press conference in the bomb-damaged headquarters of the UUP in central Belfast, Mr Molyneaux again ruled out any formal deals between his party's MPs in the new parliament and either of the two main parties. He offered instead an informal understanding based on his party's known objectives. He said that Ulster Unionists recognised the importance of ensuring that a new government could be formed and that his party would not behave in the reckless manner that it believed the Liberal Democrats were threat-

On Scottish devolution, Mr Molyneaux was unequivocal. He would

oppose a Labour Queen's speech containing it unless Northern Ireland was being offered the same arrangements. There was no reason why Northern Ireland should not be treated similarly, especially since the political parties in the province had more than 50 years' experience of operating devolved structures.

Mr Molyneaux added that it would be unfair to deny devolution to Belfast pending cross-party or crosscommunity agreement on the structures required since, in Scotland, no such consensus would be achievable or necessary. Another issue on which his party

would vote with an opposition would be on what Mr Molyneaux called "any further surrender of sovereignty" resulting from the Maastricht treaty on European economic and political union. He said that his MPs would oppose as a matter of principle, and whatever the consequences, the implementation of legislation following on from undertakings made at Maastricht.

Party predicts gains

Lib Dems eye West for key successes

By Sheila Gunn, political correspondent

AS PADDY Ashdown made a final sweep through the West Country yesterday. Liberal Democrat officials were confident of gaining sease there but were cautious about claiming success in some of the constituencies where the party has a high profile.

Des Wilson, the campaign director, said that about ten Tory-held constituencies in Devon, Cornwall and other pockets of old Liberalism dotted around Britain look the most winnable for the Liberal Democrats tomorrow, Mr Wilson expected the best result for the third party since the second world war. The five-point rise in their poll rating since the start of the campaign puts the Liberal Democrats within sight of the 23 per cent of the vote that the SDP-Liberal Alliance achieved in 1987. In spite of Mr Wilson's optimism, the Liberal Democrats' victories are likely to be balanced by losses of at least two of the 22 seats they held in the last parliament, and the failure to win Labour-held marginals

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that they have targeted.

The party's most fertile territory for gains from the Conservatives, according to local polls, includes Falmouth and Camborne, where Sebastian Coe is standing for the Tories, North Devon, North Comwall and South East Cornwall. Hopes are also high in Torbay, Tiverton and St Ives.

The party leadership would be distraught if no more than 15 MPs were returned; mildly depressed with 20; delighted with 25; and delirious with 30-plus.

The indications are that Chris Patten, the chairman of the Conservative party, who had a majority of 1,412 in Bath in 1987, will hold the seat. The Liberal Democrats tend to score well only where their candidates has a strong local record. In Bath their candidate, Don Foster, has been selected recently and comes from Bristol, regarded in Bath as enemy territory.

Liberal Democrat advisers are vaguely uneasy at the prospect of finally wresting Cheltenham from the Conservatives, because such a result could be seen as a racist protest-vote against John Taylor, the Tory candidate, who is black

who is black.

The Liberal Democrats are fielding one of their best candidates, Jenny Tonge, a GP, in Richmond and Barnes, but their chances against Jeremy Hanley, the Tory, who had a

majority of 1,766 in 1987, do not look great

Two sears, Conwy in North Wales and the Isle of Wight, were fairly low down on the target list at the start of the campaign, but have been promoted to the first division of winnable seats. The Liberal Democrats also seem likely to

take Hereford.

Liz Lynne, the Liberal Democrat candidate in Rochdale, faces tough competition from Labour after the retirement of Sir Cyril Smith. East-bourne and Ribble Valley, both won by the Liberal Democrats at by-elections, are also

vulnerable.

Seats in the North that the Liberal Democrats have targeted, including Hazel Grove and Colne Valley, might not swing to them because of the three-way split in the vote. Also in doubt, because of the Labour threat, are two of the seats highest on the party's hit list. Portsmouth South and Stockton South, both formerly held by the Social

Democrats.

Mr Wilson relied for his optimism partly on regional polls, showing the Liberal Democrats on 33 per cent in the South West and 28 per cent in the South East, together with polls published by local newspapers putting the party ahead in Bath, Hazel Grove and Falmouth and

Although polis in Scotland

have been dismal, falling as low as 7 per cent during the campaign, the Liberal Democrats are expecting to retain most if not all of the ten seats they held there in the last parliament. There are question marks over the constituency of Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber, being defended by Sir Russell Johnston, and North East Fife, being defended by Menzies Campbell. However, Scotland's fourway split and a possible surge by the Scottish nationalists, make the result hard to

In Wales. Richard Livsey will be in a three-way tussle to keep a grip on Brecon and Radnor where he had a majority in 1987 of a mere 56.

The third party has a habit of picking up a few odd seats which had not been marked

of picking up a few odd seats which had not been marked out highly during the campaign, such as Southport in 1987. The seats that could see surprise Liberal Democrat victories include Liverpool Broad Green, Hastings, Twickenham and East London's Bow and Poplar.



- 1. Manufacturing exports are at an all-time high and are still going up.
- 2. In 1991 we lost one hour per worker through industrial disputes compared to three and a half days in 1979.
- **3.** Investment in research and development is nearly twice the 1978 level.
- 4. We export more per head than the Japanese.
- **5.** Our productivity growth matches Japan's and beats all other major countries.

Free enterprise will soon pull Britain out of recession.

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Labour puts faith in civil service

Kinnock rules out night of long knives

ONE of the first acts of a Labour government would be to assure Whitchall's mandarins that the civil service will not be politicised. Nor would there be a great clear out of senior figures who have served the Tories over the past

13 years. Mr Kinnock has told The Times: "I've got very strong confidence in the British civil service system amd consequently I won't in No 10 be looking over my shoulder at people who've served the immediate two previous prime ministers. I'm certain that they don't operate on a partisan basis and they produce an efficient service. My only test always of everything is 'does it work?'

Mr Kinnock said that he could offer "a blueprint for the most beneficial but uproarious reorganisation of the system of government". But he said that such reforms had to await an improvement in the British economy and that even then they should proceed by consensus. "The last thing I want to inflict on the system is turmoil.

He is, however, determined to proceed swiftly with Labour's promised freedom of information act, which is likely to cause some ructions in Whitehall.

Mr Kinnock is sceptical of the value of extending the "cabinet" system of clusters of political appointees around ministers, advocated in a recent speech to the First Divi-sion Association of top civil servants by Bryan Gould. Aithough he does not regard such questions as being in "no-go areas", his colleagues say that the Labour leader believes such appointments would blur lines of responsibility and that he remains to be convinced of their

value. Copies of Labour's manifesto have been distributed throughout Whitehall during the election. Sir Robin Butler. the cabinet secretary, met the shadow cabinet last November for a discussion and shadow ministers have in recent weeks had private consultations with permanent secreplans for the structure and organisation of departments could be implemented. Labour is committed to a

new ministry for women, a new ministry of the arts, and cabinet places for a minister of environmental protection, a minister for Europe and a minister for international development. Policy documents have also outlined plans for a minister of state for community care, a minister for science and a minister for children.

In addition, plans for various quangos such as a Greater London authority, regional development agencies in England, a national investment bank, education standards commission, food standards agency and quality commission for local government have been talked through with officials.

In spite of this, colleagues say that Mr Kinnock would be more like Margaret son or Edward Heath in his attitude to Whitehall. "He won't be a great mover of government Lego blocks," a colleague said yesterday. "Fundamentally he accepts the structure that is

Like Mrs Thatcher, Mr Kinnock is said to see Whitehall restructuring as a dis-traction from the implementation of policy. If elected, he plans to take the measure of the system during the first extended session of parlia-ment through to the summer of 1993 before consulting with leading civil servants about ways of improving the efficiency of government.

The return to government of John Major would not leave Whitehall undisturbed. Under the plans outlined during the Conservative election campaign there would be the biggest shake-up of responsibilities for two decades.

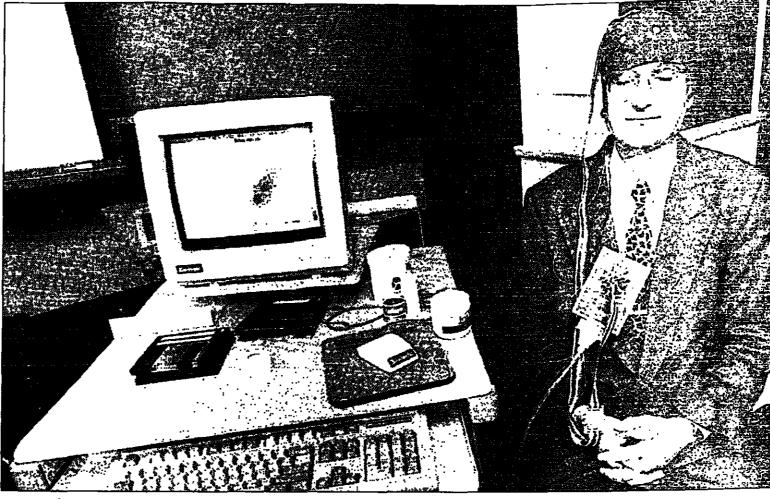
Under the Conservatives there would be a new cabinetlevel post with overall charge of the citizen's charter, monitoring Whitehall efficiency and reforming the civil service. A new ministry of the

taries over how Labour's arts and national heritage would take over responsibility for broadcasting from the Home Office and for sport the education

The department of energy would be absorbed into a revamped department of trade and industry which would also take responsibility for small businesses from the employment department. Employment would take over the Home Office's responsibilities for women's

In order to tighten the government's regulatory grip, the Treasury would take over responsibility for overseeing all financial services. The environment department would take on energy efficiency re-sponsibilities from the disappearing energy department and gain greater powers over urban regeneration.

Labour is expected to look at the Conservatives' proposed reforms and might take on some of them.



The right stuff: Guy Hatchard, Natural Law candidate for Epsom and Ewell, demonstrates through a brain-mapping test that he is in the state of 'restful alertness' that makes a good politician (Alison Roberts writes). As journalists

giggled at a press conference yesterday, Mr Hatchard's head was hooked up to electro-encephalographic equipment borrowed from the Maharishi Vedic University in Iowa and produced blue and yellow brain patterns of tranquillity and

orderliness. Politicians who have not mastered the art of yogic flying will produce the red brain graphic of tortured agitation. All 310 candidates of the Natural Law party have undergone the test and had their high quality blue brains passed.

A few days transform absurd forecast into likely result

In two and a half days' time. Neil Kinnock may be prime minister. Just writing that would have seemed absurd for most of his 8 2 years as Labour leader. But over the past few days the political world and perhaps the public have begun to adjust to the possibility, even likelihood, that Labour will be the largest single party in a hung parliament.

So mesmerised have we all been by April 9, that only now is Labour starting to face up to what it may have to do in office. Labour's leaders show no sense of triumphalism, but rather nervous expectation and apprehension. They cannot quite believe that victory could be so near.

I spent Monday in the Midlands, first with Gordon Brown and then with Tony Blair, and finally at a rally in Birmingham that they both addressed with Roy Hattersley. Mr Brown and Mr Blair will play important roles in office, at trade and industry and at employment. Nei-ther has any direct experience of a Labour government. They were not elected until 1983. While both have detailed plans as part of the recovery programme, they are not over-confi-

RIDDELLON THE ELECTION

dent. Only Mr Hattersley and John Smith have been in cabinet before, and well over half the likely cabinet have never held even junior office. All know they have to prove themselves. Labour has mainly gained as a result of the recession and public dislike of the Tories after 13 years in office. There have been few signs of active enthusiasm for Labour's programme; the party will have to win

support in office for its ideas. The first test of a Labour government will probably come in the financial markets. The impression I get from Mr Kinnock's advisers is that he is prepared to take tough action to establish credibility. A Labour government would be ready to raise interest rates to see off any speculative attack. And I would not rule out a rapid move to the narrow band of the exchange-rate mechanism.

Forget all talk of Lab-Lib deals or arrangements. If Labour is the largest single party, it would govern alone. Mr Kinnock is prepared to call Paddy Ashdown's bluff about bringing down a minority govern-ment which did not hold formal talks with other parties about a Queen's Speech. Labour leaders believe that Scottish Liberal Democrats would not vote against a Queen's Speech proposing a parlia-ment in Edinburgh. There are al-ready tensions between some of the Scottish Lib Dems and Mr Ashdown, of which Labour is well aware and will not be slow to exploit.

Moreover, recent discussion of Mr Kinnock's plan to broaden the membership of the Plant enquiry into electoral reform has distracted attention from his other shift towards emphasising a consensus programme. Mr Hattersley, heart and soul a party man, emphasised in Birmingham how Labour would not "ride roughshod over our opponents. In government, we shall work for consensus."

In practice, a Oueen's Speech from a minority government would emphasise economic recovery. boosting the health service and education, and constitutional reform. There would deliberately be a lot of common ground with Liberal proposals. That does not mean that Labour would water down its manifesto but that the programme would be difficult for the Lib Dems to

In office. Labour would have strong cards. And Mr Ashdown's strategy could well rebound, not only if his own party splits but if the electorate punishes the Lib Dems at a second election.

The prospect of Mr Kinnock as prime minister, plus worries over what Labour's plans mean for tax and take-home pay, could still result in a last minute switch to the Tories among waverers and Lib Dem supporters. That is about the Tories' only hope of holding on to office. But there is little sign of that so far. The Tories generally have the look of losers. Kenneth Baker's warnings about immigration and the dangers of a rise of fascism if proportional representation were adopted — "a pact with the devil", he called it have smelt of desperation. Similarly. Michael Heseltine has gone over the

top in claiming that a Kinnock government would take "Britain's economy on a headlong dive to disaster". It is about as wild as Mr Kinnock's warning that a continuation of Tory government would turn the recession into a slump. There are important differences between both parties' policies but to tail, of a choice between disaster and slump is a gross exaggeration.

By contrast. Labour campaigners are almost universally confident. That is parily just the stark contrast with the poor results in 1983 and 1987. But in the Midlands I was struck by how even experienced regional organisers have raised their sights. The party is no longer just expecting to win the Northfield, Selly Oak and Yardley seats in Birmingham, it is talking about capturing Hall Green. Dudley West and Warwickshire North.

Labour believes it will win, or at any rate be the biggest single part. Anything less will be a devastation

Peter Riddell

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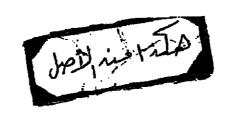
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Harassed constituency candidates rush on oblivious of the larger picture

To be a candidate in a general election is a weird experience. For three long weeks you are locked up in a tiny world of your own, oblivious to the outside one. utterly obsessed with the shifts and movements and crises of your own constituency. There is little time to read newspapers, except the local ones, and no time at all to watch television, least of all party political broadcasts.

How are the postal and proxy votes coming along? Why is Mrs Jones, a lifelong Tory, now muttering about voting for the Liberal Democrats? Is it really true that we have found strong support in Ellesmere Avenue? Why is Sir Robert Rhodes James, former Tory MP, still relishes the fight as he campaigns for colleagues in the North

posters? Why has the Battle Bus broken down again? Why didn't the local paper carry that story we gave them about the Labour candidate's gaffe on council spending? Why won't the hospital let me canvass there?

This is the stuff of the candidate's life. Meals are grabbed, usually as pub lunches: oceans of tea and coffee are drunk; the daily programme of visits, walkabouts, answering letters, and fending off the media seems to get more The Crown sporting Labour arduous as polling day ap-

proaches. What is going on elsewhere is of no concern to the candidate and his team. contemptuously chucking the mound of literature from central office into the dustbin. A parliamentary candidate

is, in short, the last person you should seek information from about the general picture. He or she does not give a damn about the general picture. For the first time in more than 15 years, I am not a candidate, so I set out to the

North to support friends who

are former colleagues, de-

were stuffing envelopes with election literature. I could have sworn that they were the same ones I had left in Cambridge, doing the same job. chattering away, gossiping happily, drinking gallons of tea, and alternating between grumbles and great cheerfulness. But I then found them in other constituencies. It

fending difficult seats. For the

first time in an election. I

have time to read the papers

here is one extraordinary

I phenomenon of a Con-

servative campaign that I had

not previously realised. When

I walked into David Sum-

berg's campaign headquar-

ters in Bury South, the ladies

and watch television.

seemed as though we had a special cohort of these splendid people being taken around the country from constituency to constituency.

Modern elections have become startlingly high-tech, with mobile phones, word processors, computers and faxes. Everyone has a Battle Bus (and who, pray, coined that idiotic description of a tired old van, a Thirties lorry, or a Range-Rover?). It all seems very professional compared with my first experiences in the distant Seventies, but the odd thing is that the essentials remain.

People matter. They have to be found for a huge variety of tasks, from envelope stuffing to canvassing, writing and distributing leaflets, monitor-ing the enemy ("Did she really say, she supports the PLO? Check it out, urgently') and picking up gossip in pubs (far more important and useful than the political scientists seem to realise). As Alan Herbert remarked, it never ceased to amaze him that so many people would take so much of their time and energy to get someone else into

But what was The Other Lot doing? As far as we could see, nothing at all. Where were their canvass teams? In Wallasey, we saw a group of Liberal Democrats working a shopping street, without much joy, as far as we only interest was in getting home. It was all very

cheering. Thus, for all the high-tech and glossy election addresses. with pretty colour photo-graphs of the candidate and his/her family and dogs, an English campaign is refreshingly old-fashioned, warm and human. I found canvassing for other people far more enjoyable than canvassing for

I was always treated with immense courtesy and friendliness, and not least by a gorgeously pretty young lady in a diminutive bathrobe who, alas, was a schoolteacher active in the National

constituents tend to be reticent about their voting intentions; not so in the North.

The whole experience reminded me vividly of 1970. when the opinion polls were grim but the canvass returns (which we did not believe then) were excellent, and proved to be the true guide For what it is worth, my fiveday foray revealed that the Conservative vote was holding up strongly in every constituency and it was exhilarating to see the Tory army on the march again. The candidates were surviving, too. They and their families are counting the days and hours to April 9. I know

Constituency profiles: Jobs stay a big concern with voters whether in the towns or in the countryside

Gummer pleads with disaffected farmers not to forsake Tories

A HELICOPTER brought John Gummer, the agriculterday to warn discontented farmers not to jeopardise their own best interest by dropping their traditional allegiance to the Conservative party and to Emma Nicholson, defending the seat.

Pouring scorn on the European federalist sympathies of the Lib Dems, who are widely expected to make big gains in the South-West, Mr Gummer suggested that anyone who voted for them was voting for the proposals by Raymond MacSharry, the EC agricul-ture commissioner, to bankrupt British farming by switching resources to south-

We are the only party that backs the countryside," he told a polite but sceptical audience of farmers and their families at the Big Sheep, a combined farm and theme park just outside Bideford. To a background of baas and bleats, he described Labour as a party of townies who did not know the first thing about agriculture, and the Liberal Democrats as caring nothing for British interests in their headlong enthusiasm for European integration.

Mr Gummer's strictures may not be enough. Miss Nicholson's majority of just under 6,500 at Devon West and Torridge is considered to he seriously at risk, and a big factor in her possible downfall is the plight of farming.

According to Mike Turner, the local Conservative chairman and owner of the Big Sheep, farmers account for about 15 per cent of the constituency's electorate. more than seven times the

proportion nationally. At least another 15 per cent work in ancillary industries or are otherwise dependent on

But these are hard times. and the future of the small family farm in particular is under greater threat than at any time since before the war. To that can be added discontent at the declining quality of DEVOK W & TORRIDGE !!

1987 result: Miss E H Nicholson (C) 29,484 (50.3%); J P A Burnett (L/All) 23,016 (39.2%); D G Brenton (Lab) 4,990 (8.5%); F Williamson (Grn) 1,168 (2.0%). Conserva-tive majority: 6,468



urban life, with the loss of shops, public transport and affordable housing.

compounded their dill ties. Tens of thousands of jobs have disappeared in agriculture and in mining; there are now only about 178,000 fulltime farmers, compared with three or four times that number a generation ago.

Farm incomes are at their lowest level for ten years, and



Recruiting drive: Jackie Ballard greeting a voter in her effort to overturn a 10,000 Tory majority in Taunton

Rasputin's double succumbs to Paddy factor

prises on the Conservatives at

business rate.

too common.

WITH a friend like that, who needed enemies, Jackie Ballard, the Liberal Democrat candidate for Taunton, would have been perfectly en-titled to ask. A tall, cadaver-ous and bearded political admirer was parading up and down the shopping precinct scaring the voters with bizarre election pledges and

warnings of Armageddon.
"Oh, no! Do something quick," Ms Ballard hissed. By now, the man, who could have been Rasputin's identical twin, had transferred his attention from a small child to an elderly woman. Waving a Lib Dem placard frantical ly, he backed the terrified pensioner against a litter bin and hectored her mercilessly. 'You shouldn't be talking

on my behalf really." Ms Ballard said. The mild rebuke went unnoticed as the man

stared into the middle distance and warned shoppers about meltdown at Hinkley Point nuclear power station. Earlier, Ms Ballard found

herself the victim of vindictive ruminants at the town's live-stock market, treading in something dreadful. Bearded men and other hazards apart. the campaign is going well for Ms Ballard. So well in fact, that the Tories in Taunton, defending a majority last time of 10,380, have said the result appears to be "neck

On the Halcon council estate, where every home comes with a rottweiler or snarling alsatian, former Labour supporters are coming over to Ms Ballard in droves. "I believe in the Labour, but they've no chance here in Taunton," Marlene Smith said. "Your policies make a lot of sense too, so, to keep the Tories out, you can count on

F TAUNFUN . 1987 result: D J Nicholson (C) 30,248 (51,4%); M A K Cocks (SDP/All) 19,868 (33.7); G Reynolds (Lab) 8,754 (14.9). Conservative majority 10,380 (17.6)

us." Her husband nodded vigorously.

Back on the street, Ms Ballard leapt smartly out of the path of a battered car and ignored a shouted insult. You can't win them all," she laughed nervously as the drizzle became a downpour.

Still, there was consolation on the next doorstep. Pamela Hogan, once a staunch Tory, said: "I've just become so disillusioned. All those promises and we end up with recession and poll tax. I won't forgive them for that, nor will thousands of others here in Taunton. Some of the farmers are

deserting the Tories too. Andy Harding, aged 41, has given up rearing cattle and become an auctioneer's assistant at the livestock market. "I've put my farm up for sale much of her apparent success because of the recession they

caused. I've got to sell if I'm to pay off my debts."

Colin Hutchings, a sheep farmer, had lost faith in the Conservatives too. "They got us into this slump but they can't get us out it's time someone else had a chance, couldn't be any worse," he

In the far western corner of the constituency, on Exmoor, another spectacular conversion has been achieved. Rohaise Thomas-Everard, landowner and breeder of Arab horses, has parted company with the Conservatives and started campaigning for the Liberal Democrats. Such is her dedication to her new cause that she has posed rather stiffly for pictures with Ms Ballard which now feature on the front of a Liberal Democrat newsletter. Ms Ballard attributed

in Taunton to the "Paddy factor". "Yeovil is our neighbouring constituency and Paddy Ashdown has been very high profile in Somerset for years," she said. "Traditionally the South-West used to be strongly Liberal, and now the message is getting across: the voters want a change and the old two-party

loyalties have gone." David Nicholson, the Tory candidate, said that he was not surprised that the Liberal Democrats were feeling reasonably encouraged. "There's no doubt they're better organised than five years ago and have worked hard in preparation. I don't feel under threat but I'm not com-

Mandelson adopts a company image

By Alan Hamilton

THE head of one of the few flourishing factories in the industrial wasteland of Han-lepool outlines how his firm is coping with the recession.

Across the boardroom table. the man in the business suit. white shirt and striped tie looks and sounds like one of his middle managers. He is Peter Mandelson, the

Labour candidate, a good sol-dier of the New Model Party. They don't get many Oxford philosophy, politics and economics graduates, southerners or former party communications directors as candidates in the North-east.

Mr Mandelson asks the boss if he has ever called on

HARTLEPOOL

1987 result: E Leadbitter 24,296 (48.5%); P C Catchpole (C) 17.007 7,047 (14.1); I J Cameron (Ind) 1,786 (3.6). Labour majority 7,289 (14.5)

the services of his local MP. "Well, we got Ted to open our extension," he says after some thought. Ted Leadbitter, who has retired after 40 years as councillor and MP, was much respected, even by local

On the shop floor amid clattering machinery — all German — Mr Mandelson enthuses: "This is the model of what I want in Hartlepool, competitive,

investment in technology." Hartlepool certainly needs jobs. Ten thousand were lost between 1980 and 1985 and 2,000 in the past two years. Mr Mandelson links unemployment to rising crime. Jobs and police are the an-

swer here, not social workers and softer sentences." The question is whether an Oxford graduate is the answer here. The Tory camp says that when it put up a management consultant from Surrey in 1987, the party lost by 7,289, but when it fielded a local man in 1983 it lost only by 3.090. Its contender this time is Graham Robb, aged 28, a local public

relations consultant.

Mr Mandelson has an important promise up his sleeve. Labour, he says, will not implement the Taylor committee report on making football grounds all-seater. If Hartlepool FC, struggling up the Third Division, were forced to comply, it would almost certainly join the town's business casualties.

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Man with a ladder makes Fintry's Tories see red

ON THE evidence of the posters plastered over Fintry, a village on the upper reaches of the Endrick valley, its inhabitants were pray-ing last night for a new, socialist dawn. Not a single Conservative poster could be found: the place was a sea of red.

Could this whole village, with its white-washed cottages, hanging baskets, horse boxes and Mercedes parked in the main street, really have defected to Labour? Surely someone, somewhere must vote Tory. If not, then it was a bad omen for Michael Forsyth, the Scottish minister of state, who is defending his Stirling seat, lighting to retain, and perhaps improve on, his majority of 548, the second smallest in Scotland.

Further investigation was required. A man outside the village shop gave a knowing laugh. Then a teenage girl explained. On Sunday night one of the locals had emerged from the inn after several refreshments. Feeling in the mood for a wheeze, he had apparently gone home, fetched a ladder and proceeded, giggling, to remove all the Tory posters from every lamp. garden gate, tree and telegraph pole in the village. Trouble was, someone tipped off the local Con-

STREING 1987 result: M B Forsyth (C) 17,191; M Connarty (Lab) 16,643; 1 McFarlane (L/All) 6.804; I M Lawson (SNP) 4.897. Conservative majority: 548

servative "high heid yin", who trailed him round Fintry in her car, her outrage increasing with every poster that fluttered to the

The police were told and yesterday a spokesman said the matter was being investigated. Apparently, the police had arrived and asked a girl if she had seen a man with a ladder. She said she didn't know anyone who drove a Lada in Fintry. It is that kind of village.

Fourteen miles away, on the Raploch housing estate in Stirling, there was a similar dearth of Tory posters, but for rather different reasons. "The Raploch" has one of the worst reputations for deprivation, and all the ills that that condition brings, in central Scotland. John McDonald was outside his council flat exercising Tyson, his dog. "Are you the poll tax man?" he asked. Mr McDonald, on income support, said that many people on the Raploch had not

Kerry Gill looks at the two faces of Stirling, where the Conservative majority is just 548

paid their poll tax. The poll tax might be an old issue among most of the electorate, but not on the Raploch, a grey, treeless huddle of ageing council houses beneath Stirling Castle. Mr McDonald said that he had paid the first year, paid half his bill the second year and nothing this year. The upshot, a familiar tale on the estate, was that his debt was being reduced forcibly by about £2 a week off his benefit.

Michael Forsyth the man might be all right, but he is just a yes-man for Maggie." he said. But Margaret Thatcher was long gone. surely. "Maggie is still the issue in Stirling. She gets the blame for the poll tax and all that is bad about the Tories. You have to pay to put clothes and shoes on your bairns. then they take the money back in poll tax. This estate is 95 per cent Labour and maybe 5 per cent SNP," Mr McDonald added. "You won't find any Tories here."

Huge sums of public and private noney are being spent on Stirling. its riverfront and, particularly, its historic centre that overlooks the Raploch before the rather better view of the Trossachs to the north. On the estate they are not impressed. One man said: "People here live on the bare necessities. They are feared to leave their houses in case they lose what little they have got. Then they are spending millions up there," he said pointing towards the castle.

Mr Forsyth's main threat comes from Kate Phillips, the Labour candidate. She is convinced that Mr Forsyth's style of conviction politics and his unpopularity with the opposition parties generally will encourage tactical voting to get rid of him. There is no doubting Mr For-

syth's strong following in the largely rural constituency, however. Even the grumbling farmers, many of whom have threatened to give the Tories a fright, are expected to "come to mummy" tomorrow. Mr Forsyth is also acknowledged to be an excellent constituency man and, more important for tomorrow's result, the resurgence of the nationalists could eat into Labour's vote.

Further west, in villages such as Killearn, Gargunnock, Aberfoyle, Kippen and Fintry, the Tory vote strengthens, pranksters notwithstanding. If the election could be won on the size of posters, Michael Forsyth would have a landslide victory. Mrs Thatcher, for instance, had a rapturous welcome in Killearn the other day.

In the centre of Stirling yesterday, Mr Forsyth was upbeat, confident and clearly well liked. While he chatted to passers-by an altercation developed between the Labour and SNP camps on the other side of the street. A Labour campaigner started yelling at the nationalists, decrying Gerry Fisher, their candidate.

The man would not shut up depite the pleas of his colleagues. What with the run-up to the election, it has been a long campaign.

Mr Fisher had just finished tell-ing everyone to vote SNP for no nuclear weapons, no poli tax, no nuclear waste and, obscurely, no phoney double-glazing salesmen. He could stand the man's interruptions no longer. Mr Fisher picked up a megaphone and, to cheers from the crowds, screamed: "Be quiet or, alternatively, keep your big fat mouth shut!"

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government."

House prices most at risk in South-East

BY ANATOLE KALETSKY, ECONOMICS EDITOR

house prices seems likely in London and the South-East if Labour wins the election, but the outlook for housing in the rest of the country may de-pend less on tomorrow's poll than on the state elec-tions held in Germany last

Sunday.

Most of the predictions about a house-price "melidown" after a Labour victory are driven by fears of high interest rates, rather than high taxes, under Lab-our. But, while Labour's plans for punitive taxes on the rich have been spelt out, it is pure guesswork whether interest rates would rise or fall if John Smith moved into 11 Downing Street.

The prospects for British interest rates will depend mainly on the decisions made in Frankfurt by the Bundesbank. The chances are that interest rates there will not start to fall at least until the autumn. But given the political uncertainty in Germany, France and Italy, there seems no reason why Britain should have to increase its premium over German rates just because it joins the club of Euro-pean nations without a clear

majority government. If interest rates are taken out of the picture, as more or less outside Britain's control, the potential impact of a Labour government on the housing market can be reduced to

two opposing forces. On one hand there will be sharp reductions in the disposable incomes of affluent professionals and managers. These are bound to hit the entire property market in London and the South-East, as well as undermining the value of high-priced properties and second homes in the rest of the country. The average new mortgage in London

A FURTHER sharp drop in is £60,000 and the average income of borrowers is £27,000. That compares with a national average mortgage of £44,000 and an average income of £21,000. More striking still is the contrast between the number of borrowers with incomes of over £40,000 — 15 per cent in London against a national average of only 6 per cent. Somebody earning £40,000 would lose £1,700 of disposable income under Labour's tax proposals, equivalent to the cost of servicing a £20,000 mortgage.
The idea that the impact of

such large losses in income will be confined to the highpriced properties seems unre-alistic. When prices fall in one part of the market, the effect is bound to trickle down.

Fortunately, there may be an opposite force pushing from the bottom of the market. A Labour government could give a boost to first-time buyers. This should be due less to Labour's explicit income redistribution than to the general macroeconomic impact of its policies.

Most of Labour's income redistribution will go into pensions, which will obviousdo nothing for first-time buyers. However, most independent analyses of Labour's policies suggest that it would accelerate economic growth and reduce unemployment.

Since fear of unemployment and the general sluggishness of the economy is probably a bigger factor in holding back the housing market than either interest rates or taxes, a Labour government would benefit the market if the economic models turned out to be right. The models also suggest that wages would grow faster un-der Labour. If true, this could give housing a vital boost.

WITH THE PROPERTY LOANS

	Average house price £	Average advance £	Average income of borrowers	% loans to first time buyers
Northern	46,369	34,111	17,460	38
Yorks & Humber	52,943	37,383	18,063	42
East Midlands	<i>57.277</i>	40,614	19,037	49
East Anglia	63,760	43,189	20,382	45
Greater London	86.356	60.032	27.005	54
South East (excl GL)	79,769	52,955	23,525	42
South West	68,322	44,694	20,850	45
Vest Midlands	60.578	41,428	19,487	43
North West	55,049	38,595	18,603	48
Nales	51,414	35,487	18,306	50
Scotland	48,910	35,631	18,637	40
Northern Ireland	37,197	27.657	17,125	52
United Kingdom	63,926	43,956	20,699	45

What the experts predict after poll

Rachel Kelly finds evidence that a Tory victory would be the best outcome for a recovery in the property market

Housing analyst

John Wriglesworth, UBS Phillips and Drew

"If the Tories win the election, we expect a reduction in base rates by at least 1 per cent, which will be the key to recovery. But fears of unemployment will mean that house prices will not start recovering until the middle of the year after falls of 4 to 5 per cent.

"Labour's tax plans are bad news. People in the higher income bracket will put off buying, so there will be disabling effect at the top end. But only about 10 per cent of mortgage borrowers are top-rate taxpayers and claims that the market will collapse are exaggerated.

"Our forecast is that interest rates will rise 0.5 per cent if Labour is elected. As a result, prices could easily fall by another 5 per cent this year but there could still be a recovery next year. If the City reacts badly and interest rates rise 2 or more per cent it will be a devastating blow.

Estate agent

Patrick Ramsey, senior partner, Knight Frank and

"If the Tories win, there will be an initial surge of activity from vendors and purchasers who have been holding back until after the election. This will be followed by a steady market recovery.

"There is nothing to stop prices falling by 10 per cent under a Labour





David Holliday, president of the Housebuilders

"Eighty per cent of people are going to be better off under the Labour tax regime. The bottom end of the market will therefore move forward again quite quickly. The top end of the market will be badly hit."

Building society manager

David Blake, group head of corporate affairs manager, Woolwich building society

"A Tory win would immediately remove people's uncertainty on their personal finances. The housing market should begin to show signs of recovery shortly after the election.

"Labour's tax plans would cause a redistribution of income that would do little to stimulate demand at the lower and mid sections of the market while reducing demand at the upper end. Overall this would result in weaker market activity than under the Tories."



Housing assault: Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, claimed yesterday that Labour would have to put up interest rates

Heseltine leads onslaught on Labour economic plans

BY ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

LABOUR'S policies would cut take-home pay and push up interest and mortgage rates, Michael Heseltine said yesterday "Labour would stop home buyers trading up. frustrate the ambitions of first-time buyers and slash consumer spending through much higher mortgage payments.
"A Kinnock government

would have to put up interest rates because the financial markets don't trust Labour. On average, a family's mort-gage would go up by £47 a month. And at the same time the value of their home would fall. That means less money in people's pockets, which means less spending. That means less demand for industry's products, which means less work for industry and job losses - higher unemployment under Labour."

Mr Heseltine's assault was part of a Conservative effort to brand Labour as a party that would wreck Britain's hopes of coming out of recession. He quoted a report from the National Council of **Building Material Producers** which predicted that a Labour victory and the associated

"hold back house price dive to disaster. Labour's polistabilisation" and deter first-

time buyers. He added: "Behind this statement lay a powerful and damaging analysis of the impact of Labour's economic plans on the housing and construction markets. In 1993, the construction industry's expert panel expects 160.000 private housing completions under a re-elect-

ed Conservative government

as compared to only 100,000 under Labour. Turning to housing starts: under a Conservative government the construction indus-rry expects 155,000 starts in 1993, compared to just 100,000 under Labour. The devastating result would be that over 20,000 fewer houses would be built in 1992 under a Labour government and well over 40,000 fewer homes would be built in 1993. Overall, the industry itself predicts that Labour's policies would cost the con-

struction industry £4 billion and up to 100,000 jobs." Mr Heseltine went hell for leather after his party's opponents, insisting: "A Kinnock government would take Britain's economy on a headlong

cies would devastate the housing market and shove up interest rates, throttling the

recovery."

John Major accentuated the positive, hailing a Dun and Bradstreet survey which showed business confidence rising and quoting poll evi-dence that four out of five businesses believed the economy would improve if the Tories were re-elected. Mr Major told the party's daily news conference in London: "The economic circumstances are right and recovery is

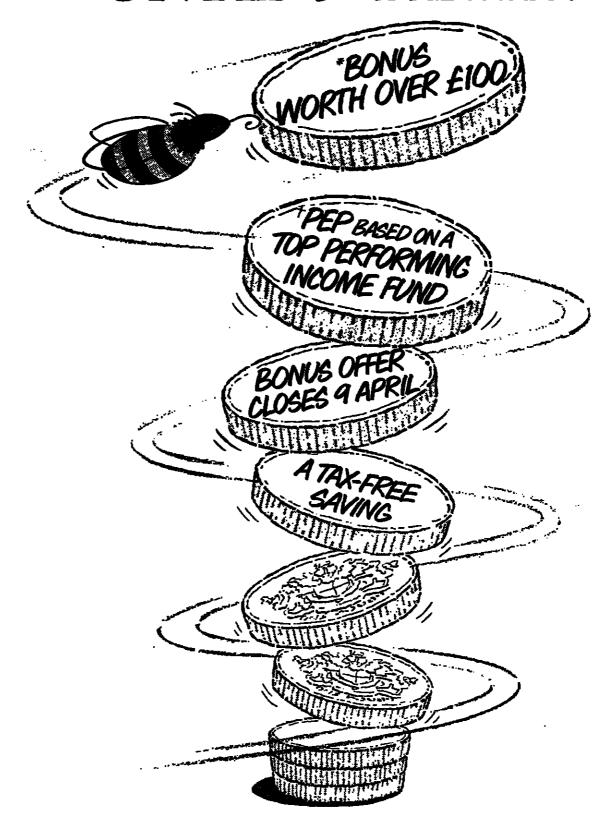
on the way."
Norman Lamont, Chancellor of the Exchequer, repeat-ed the charge that Labour's manifesto spending plans were unaffordable without swingeing tax increases. The manifesto plans, he said, would cost the equivalent of 12.5p on the basic rate of income tax. "Labour would bring high taxes for everyone. High taxes," he added, "would stille incentives, destroy confidence and kill the

recovery stone dead."

Mr Major concluded "The return of a Conservative government this Thursday is es-

**PEPF- N&P UK Income Fund. First place in the Micropal Unit Trust UK Equity Income sector for 1991 for Ten Year Performance to end 1991. Source. Micropal offer to bid ner income reinvested, 11 o.2-11.92. N&P UK Income Fund iformeth, Key Income Fund). The levels and bases of taxation can change and the value of rax relief depends on individual incomstances. The Society is an appointed representative of N&P Life Assurance Ltd and N&P Unit Trust Management Ltd, which are regulated in the conduct of investment business by SIB. Consequently, we can only advise upon the life assurance and pension products of N&P Life and the unit trust and PEP products of N&P Unit Trust Management Ltd. THE VALUE OF UNITS AND THE INCOME FROM THEM CAN GO DOWN AS WELL AS UP AND THE INVESTOR MAY NOT GET BACK THE AMOUNT INVESTED. PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARILY A GUIDE TO FUTURE PERFORMANCE. National & Provincial Building Society, Provincial House, Bradford BD1 1NL.

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Clinton banks on New Yorkers to seal nomination

FROM PETER STOTHARD, US EDITOR, IN NEW YORK

AMERICAN Democrat leaders watched anxiously yesterday for the first results from the New York, Wisconsin and Kansas primaries. Wins for Bill Clinton would mean a clear road to the presidential nomination for a candidate who many think unelectable. Any stumblings by the frontrunner, especially in New York, could open the way for new candidates to enter the race. But decisions on how and who would have to be made fast

Early exit polls showed Mr Clinton leading in all three states but with Paul Tsongas. whose name was on the bal-lots even though he did not camapaign, scoring heavily among Jewish voters in New York. Polisters predicted that, with black votes following Jes-se Jackson's lead into the Jer-

AMERICA has suspended

an aid programme worth

more than \$250 million

(£143 million) to Peru and

denounced President Fuii-

mori's seizure of power as a

'regrettable step backwards"

'The United States calls for

for democracy in the region.

the full and immediate resto-

ration of constitutional de-

mocracy, which must include

immediate freedom for those

detained," Richard Boucher,

a State Department spokes-

As a further sign of anger,

an American diplomatic mis-sion that arrived in Lima only hours after the coup was re-

called yesterday. Argentina also offered asylum to Alan

Garcia, the former president,

the permanent council of the 34-nation Organisation of

American States decided to

call a meeting of Latin Ameri-

can foreign ministers "in a

matter of days" for a discus-

sion on what further mea-

sures can be taken against President Fujimori. State De-

partment officials are partic-

ularly concerned that the

presidential coup cripples

American efforst to combat

the drug trade in Peru, the

world's largest producer of the coca leaf, the raw material

clubs and tear gas stopped an

attempt by the Peruvian Congress to meet in defiance of

President Fujimori on Mon-

day. Lima was mainly calm

yesterday and military vehi-

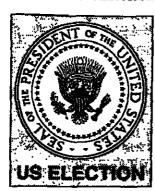
cles had been withdrawn

from most of the streets. But

Police armed with guns,

for cocaine.

In an emergency meeting.



could be close.

In the Clinton camp the view was that, with more than half the necessary delegates won even before New York, the victory was already theirs. Only a "maximum scandal" could take it away from them, one adviser said. The cam-

tanks, armoured personnel

carriers, and soldiers still

stood guard outside Con-

gress, the Palace of Justice, and other judicial buildings. The presidents of both

houses of congress were

under house arrest. A Peruvi-

an journalist. Gustavo

Gorritti, correspondent of the Spanish daily El Pais and one

of Peru's foremost experts on

political violence, also re-

mained in government custo-dy after his arrest. The

Señor Gorritti had been

arrested with classified de-

him out of office.

One radio station has been

closed down, and Luis Casas.

a journalist from Si, a weekly,

said his publication had been

shut and its files taken. Des-peration may have helped convince most people to ac-

cept the coup. More than 90

per cent in Lima have no

steady job. The legal mini-mum monthly wage is the

equivalent of \$75, but the cost

of living rivals America. In

addition to political violence

by Shining Path guerrillas.

common crime has shot up.

nilitary command said that

US halts aid to

Peru and recalls

official mission

FROM JAMIE DETTMER IN WASHINGTON AND CORINNE SCHMIDT IN LIMA

paign in New York, where 244 delegates were at stake. was the most important for a month. But, although it was fun for New Yorkers to see Mr Clinton and Mr Brown humiliated by the media, the forecast turnout was still low. Pundits argued that this could be used as an additional reason to pull Mr Tsongas out of retirement or to draft a senior figure who had not fought in the primaries.
It would be hard, however,

for those perennial non-candidates, Senators Lloyd Bentsen and Al Gore, Cong-ressman Richard Gephardt and Mario Cuomo, the N York governor, to get their names on the remaining ballots. Although with goodwill and a good legal team anything may be possible, even though the filing deadlines

have past.

It would be still harder to explain to the American people why, in this year of the outsider, when professional politicians are as popular as child-molesters, the people's primary choice had to be supplanted by someone who chose not to submit himself to

the voters' scrutiny.
"Amen to that," said a young Italian-American after voting in Greenwich Village yesterday. He said he had voted for Mr Brown but was sure that neither of the choices on offer could beat George Bush in November. Many influential Republicans are not so sure about that. Using a rule-of-thumb that two-thirds of dissatisfied voters vote against the incum-

bent president and threequarters of satisfied voters vote for him, Mr Bush is not safe. Some two-thirds of the electorate think that the country is heading in the wrong direction — the figure that probably matters more and explains more than any other

Mr Brown appealed to the strong sense in America this year that the whole system is fence documents.

On Monday evening, members of the Peruvian conrotten and needs rebuilding. gress had tried to meet at the His final campaign call in Brooklyn on Monday night was: "Take it back, America, take it back". Fewer agreed with his solutions than with offices of the Peruvian Bar Association. Their goal, said conservative senator, Manuel Moreyra, was "to go into session and declare the presidenhis analysis. While supporters cy vacant". Under Peru's waited for his appearance at democratic constitution, writrallies they listened to Sixties ten and approved at the end poets and talked about the of a military dictatorship in newly opened "old-style 1979, congress can accuse baseball stadium in Baltithe president of sedition or more where fans can pretend moral incapacity and vote that the Fifties never finished.

Mr Clinton formed his final appeal around the message that he had given "a lifetime of commitment and service". His aim was to assure voters that the adulterous draft-

dodger with an extremist wife is a parody created by the tabloid press; and that "the real Bill Clinton" is the man to win back the White House for the Democrats.

Latest details, page 1



Business and pleasure: at the autumn fashion show in New York, a model, left, provides a feminine parody of "power-dressing". She wears a navy pin-stripe ribbed wool jersey blend

three-piece suit with bustier and skirt to calf-length, over a long-sleeved white blouse, from Gordon Henderson's collection. From the Perry Ellis collection, also at the New York au-

tumn fashion show, a stylishly primitive look the model wears a revealingly cut leopard print halter-neck top and a short skirt decorated with

Gloom in Arab capitals deepens as protests greet UN envoy in Libya

FROM MARIE COLVIN IN TRIPOLI AND RICHARD BEESTON IN CAIRO

AS ARAB League foreign ministers met in Cairo yesterday in search of a face-saving solution for Libya over the Lockerbie confrontation, Vla-dimir Petrovsky, the United Nations envoy, was forced by sit-in students to halt in his official car about 100 yards from his Tripoli hotel.

car as about 100 students, blocking the drive of al-Mahari hotel, looking out over Tripoli harbour, shouted: "The UN is finished," and some anti-American slogans.

His police motorcycle escort waited 15 minutes before moving to break up the youths. Mr Petrovsky and his aides were ushered inside as several hundred other students, chanting and waving placards, marched up the corniche. Soldiers, perhaps fear-ing a repetition of last week's violence when the Venezuelan Verse and worse, page 16 verse and worse, page 16 burnt, fired off rounds of tear

gas as the excited youths jostled forward.

Foreign ministers from seven Arab League countries gathered at the organisation's headquarters in Cairo in an apparently doomed effort to find a compromise. None held out much hope of a breakthrough at this late demonstration in Tripoli.

Amr Moussa, the Egyptian foreign minister, said: There are many proposals under discussion, but they all fall within the framework of security council resolutions. The aim of the (Arab League) committee is to contain the situation, confirm the Arab position opposing terrorism, solve the problem in the framework of international sovereignty and provide a solution which all parties will agree to."

The Tripoli demonstration appeared to be an attempt to show that Libyans stand with

Colonel Muammar Gadaffi in his anger at the UN decision last week to impose arms, air and diplomatic sanctions on Libya unless two Libyans, suspected of placing a bomb aboard the PanAm iet that exploded over Lockerbie, were handed over

Surrounded by Libyan and Russian bodyguards as he entered the hotel's marble lobby, Mr Petrovsky could say only that he planned to stay until tomorrow. Russian diplomats said he hoped to meet Colonel Gadaffi.

Libyan police and soldiers cordoned off the streets behind the hotel for the remainder of the day. For the UN envoy it was a reminder of how difficult a mission he faces as he attempts to seek a compromise with the Libyan leader to head off the sanctions, scheduled to go into effect next Wednesday. Earlier, Mr Petrovsky had

remained optimistic. "I deeply believe that even at this stage there is still an opportunity to overcome the crisis and find a solution through the security council." he said But there is little sign that

Colonel Gadaffi is in any mood to hand over the two gence agents. He has been silent about Mr Petrovsky's visit and Libyan newspapers ignored his arrival.

Libyans are nervous that sanctions will make life far more difficult and hope that some solution can be found. "What do you think? Can the Soviets help us? a Libyan engineer said over coffee in Green Square at the centre of Tripoli. "All we want to do is live in peace and get on with our own business; we want nothing to do with politics."

Marie Colvin is on the staff of The Sunday Times.

Malawi is asked to free trade unionist

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The 50-year

ITALIAN

London: Britain yesterday called for the immediate release of the human rights crusader and South African union chief. Chakufwa Chihana, who was arrested in Malawi on Monday.

The Foreign Office vesterday raised the matter with Malawi's High Commissioner in London, and is likely to issue a demarche with European Community partners

"We had forewarned the Malawi authorities prior to his return that we expected him to be treated properly. the Foreign Office said.

Mr Chihana, aged 52, the secretary-general of the Southern African Trade Union Co-ordination Council, has been critical of Dr Hastings Banda's government and its human rights record. He was detained by police on arrival in Lilongwe from Johannesburg.

Links agreed

Abidian: Ivory Coast and South Africa are to establish diplomatic ties at ambassadorial level. Ivory Coast is the first black African nation to accord Pretoria full diplomatic recognition since Presi-dent de Klerk began scrapping apartheid laws. (Reuter)

Premier named

Bangkok: General Suchinda Kraprayoon. Thailand's su-preme military commander. was named as prime minister, a document issued by the palace said. Crowds gathered to protest against the ap-pointment of a non-elected prime minister. (Reuter)

Flight planned

Peking: China plans to launch a manned spacecraft by the year 2000, the New China News Agency said. Peking hopes to develop a space station to serve as an orbiting laboratory as well as a mission control centre for manned flights. (Reuter)

Offical injured

Hong Kong: A man injured two police officers, a govern-ment official and a contract worker with a meat cleaver as the government tried to evict his family and other residents from Hong Kong's Walled City ahead of the demolition of the lawless enclave. (AFP)

Coin minted

launched the kookaburra, a 2.2lb silver coin, delayed twice to build up enough stocks to meet an expected flood of orders. The coin. named after the Australian kingfisher, will be worth about £83.73. (Reuter)

Kiev sent aid

Taipei: Taiwan's medical aid to Ukraine includes 100,000 extra-large condoms, state television said. The "Ameri-can and European-size" condoms are 4 in longer than Taiwanese condoms. The aid, worth £18,850, was flown directly to Kiev. (Reuter)

PEOPLE

Boesky sues for alimony

Ivan Boesky, the Wall Street speculator who served two years in prison for insider trading, is suing his wife for \$1 million a year (£571,000) in alimony, the New York Post reported. The case was filed in civil court last month asking \$20,000 a week for "interim financial support" for Boesky, the paper said. Seema Boesky sued earlier this year to end the couple's 30-year marriage.

The car maker John De-Lorean and Howard Weitzman, the man who defended him in his drugs trial ten years ago, have reached a friendly settlement over fees the lawyer claimed that he was owed.

The American vice-president Dan Quayle will be among guests attending a ceremony in Tokyo next month to mark the 20th anniversary of Okinawa's reversion from the United States to Japan.

Mother Teresa has told Pete Wilson, the governor of California, that Jesus would have forgiven a convicted killer who is scheduled for execution this month, and suggested that he do the same. Robert Alton Harris is due to die in the gas chamber on April 21 for murdering two

Mines litter road to peace in Cambodian hinterland

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN RUNDAS, CAMBODIA TWO uniformed men were

standing on a road planted thick with landmines. One officer bowed slightly, extend-ed his arm and said to the other: "After you." The sec-ond insisted: "No. please. after you." The scene was like an old music hall routine. Deserted Rundas is a

strange venue for farce. The players were unusual too, a Khmer Rouge general and a colonel in the Phnom Penh regime's army, bitter foes now trying tentatively to work

together in harmony. They had just shaken hands in this frontline village on Highway 12 in central Kompong Thorn province, where continued fighting has delayed the first deployment of troops of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia, slowing implementation of a UN place plan. The Khmer Rouge had at-

tacked Rundas and planted the mines, but had been driven out. Now Phnom Penh troops were trying to de-mine

Burma offers to take back some refugees

FROM ABBY TAN IN RANGOON

OHN Gyaw, the Burmese foreign minister, has said his government could take back up to 37,000 Muslim refugees - those who are considered legal residents — of an estimated 100.000 who have fled to Bangladesh. But he rejected United Nations intervention or international pressure to solve what he insisted was a bilateral immi-

gration issue. Bangladesh is awaiting the results of a fact-finding mission to Burma by Jan Eliasson, the UN undersecretarygeneral, before it moves for a resolution in the UN to urge Burma to stop what Dhaka

calls the enforced eviction of Muslims living in the Burmese state of Arakan. Dhaka claimed up to 170,000 Muslim refugees from Arakan have crossed into Bangladesh since December. Rangoon claimed they were illegal mi-

grants from Bangladesh. U Gyaw said his government was processing a list of names supplied by Dhaka of 37,000 people who claim to have legal residence papers in Burma. The figure tallied with Rangoon's own census. U Gyaw claimed that up to half a million Bangladeshi nationals were living illegally

this key road. Almost every time they exploded one of the Chinese-made devices the Khmer Rouge began shelling from surrounding forests. Brigadier General Chu

Chin, a commander in the Khmer Rouge 616 division, was accompanying a small UN reconnaissance party to see whether a company of 195 Indonesian troops now in the provincial capital, 22 miles to the south, could be deployed to separate the two forces. Clearly, with no mean-ingful ceaselire in effect, no deployment was yet possible.

Colonel Kol Vay, the Phnom Penh commander here, told the Khmer Rouge general: "The mines were planted by people on your side. Please walk in front of me and show me where they are." The general replied: They were placed by another of our division, the 802nd. I don't know where they put them, so I would rather not walk ahead. After you."

Colonal Koi Vay said later: "The Khmer Rouge killed ten of my family members and this is the first time I shook hands with one of them. But we are all Cambodian brothers, and I think we can work together." He said that, without interference, the road to Preah Vihear province, now cut off, could be cleared in ten days. If the Khmer Rouge continued to shell, or to plant new mines, it could take three



Mandela: allegations a "rehash of gossip"

Link with murder is denied

Johannesburg: Winnie Mandela yesterday reject-ed allegations that she was involved in the murder of a prominent Soweto doctor three years ago as a "rehash of gossip" aimed at harming her and the African National Congress (Gavin Bell writes).

She said similar insinuations were dismissed by the Supreme Court in Johannesburg during her trial on kidnap and serious assault charges last year. Noting that her appeal against a six-year prison sentence was pending, she said the subjudice rule had been ignored to her prejudice.

Saint became sinner L&T section, page 5

Iran embraces Thatcher's ideas on economic reform

THATCHERISM may be dead in Britain, but an Islamic version is thriving in Iran where the symbol of the economic revolution is the newly revived stock exchange on which many fortunes were made during last year's boom when prices jumped seven The market is set for an-

other surge if pragmatic supporters of President Rafsanjani beats the radicals in Friday's general election. Islamic hardliners oppose what they say is the "leach-like cap-italism" of reformers like President Rafsanjani, the prosperous son of a pistachiogrowing family.

Akhbar Zargani Nejhad, a leading broker, said: "The market is aware that many of the radicals are against us, so of course, like in the West, stock prices will be affected by the results. Everybody in this building is rooting for Rafsanjani and the moderates." Amid the potted palms and

frenzied yelling of the 30 bro-kers, the public gazes down from a gallery where they urge further rises in the prices of shares in the newly privatised state companies. It is hard not to imagine a look of distaste on the portrait of Ayatollah Khomeini which surveys the proceedings. The revival began in ear-

nest after his death in 1989, with spectacular price rises and, so far, no collapse. Shares in the star performer, a plastics company, has soared more than 900 per main motor manufacturers

Tehran's revived stock exchange is a symbol of the revolution sweeping financial life under a pragmatic government, Christopher Walker writes

gained the acceptability it once enjoyed under the Shah. "We never actually closed, but after the Islamic revolution, the volume of business was so small we did not function," said Mr Nejhad. "Things are now so busy, we are moving to a much bigger new building in six months and planning to introduce full computerisation."

cent since the market re-

At first glance, the main differences in the exchange from those in the Far East, on which it is modelled, are the absence of ties - still regarded as an unacceptable sign of bourgeois decadence - new technology, and the veils worn by all women.

fran's mullahs are among those who have profited from the stock boom and the new spirit of entrepreneurship. Recently, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the spiritual leader, went so far as to warn brash clerics bidding too lavishly to abandon their expensive homes and BMWs or risk losing the trust of the people.

Deregulation and privatisation have been at the core of President Rafsanjani's attempt to rescue Iran's centralised economy and, earlier this year, shares in the ten

were put up for sale. Western diplomats say the controls are being dismantled much fast-

er than expected. Apart from parliamentary opposition to the liberalisation, there have also been violent protests. Late last year, there were mysterious fires in the Tehran bazaar. Slogans such as "Hashemi Shah" and "death to the antipeople regime of Rafsanjani" began to appear.

At the stock exchange, ordinary people as well as the nation's elite and its merchant classes are among those now buying shares. "The enthusiasm to buy shares is so great we are going to set up a system for brokers' offices to be established in the main provincial cities as well as the capital," said the impeccably dressed Mr Nejhad. "At present, the only way people there can buy shares is through the banks.

Other signs of the changes in society being encouraged by the pragmatists have been an upsurge of English language teaching and a move towards setting a realistic exchange rate for the rial. Gillette the razor manufacturer. has returned but shares of foreign companies cannot be quoted on the exchange.

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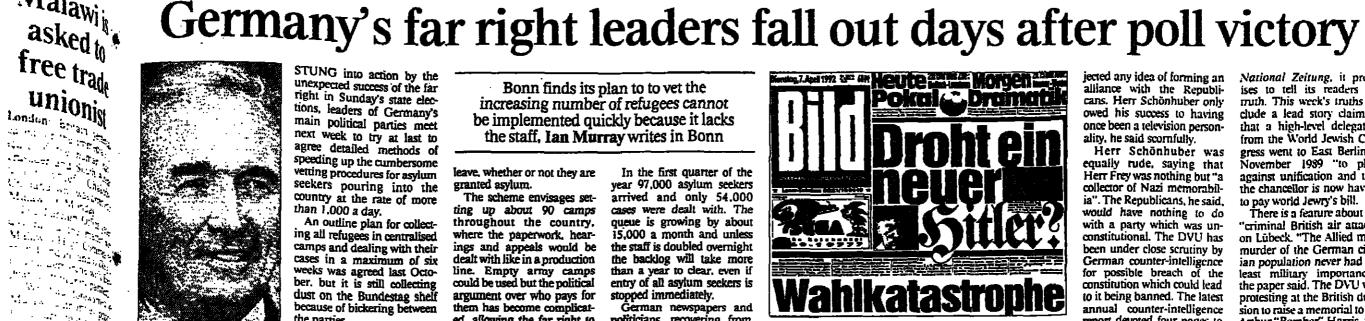
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Schönhuber: rude about DVU leader

STUNG into action by the unexpected success of the far right in Sunday's state elections, leaders of Germany's main political parties meet next week to try at last to agree detailed methods of speeding up the cumbersome vetting procedures for asylum seekers pouring into the country at the rate of more

than 1.000 a day. An outline plan for collecting all refugees in centralised camps and dealing with their cases in a maximum of six weeks was agreed last October, but it is still collecting dust on the Bundestag shelf because of bickering between the parties.

According to the plan, an accelerated process will make it possible to expel those without political grounds for asylum before they establish roots in Germany. Under the present system, vetting can take more than a year, at the end of which time it is virtually impossible to make anyone

Bonn finds its plan to to vet the increasing number of refugees cannot be implemented quickly because it lacks the staff, Ian Murray writes in Bonn

leave, whether or not they are granted asylum.

ting up about 90 camps throughout the country. where the paperwork, hearings and appeals would be dealt with like in a production line. Empty army camps could be used but the political argument over who pays for them has become complicated, allowing the far right to exploit the differences while the number of refugees grows. But it will be impossible to implement the scheme quickly even if it is introduced as planned from July 1. The number of civil servants required will have to be dou-bled, but first they will will

talks with Signor Cossiga on

Final results for the cham-

ber of deputies gave the Christian Democrats 29.7

with 34.3 at the last election

als and Social Democrats,

won 48 per cent of the vote

and managed a majority of 16 seats in the chamber. Political commentators

agreed that this would not be

sufficient to introduce polit-

ical reforms or tackle the bud-

get deficit and national debt, which threaten Italy's future

in the European Community.

"The lesson is that this gov-

ernment has been sacked." said Eugenio Scalfari, editor of La Repubblica newspaper.

Among those who lost their

seats was Guido Carli, the

treasury minister, in Genoa,

and in Turin, Guido Bodrato,

the industry minister, and Renato Altissimo, the Liberal

Umberto Bossi, the leader

of the League of the North, which won 55 seats in the chamber, and Leoluca Orlan-

do, the head of the new Rete

anti-Mafia party, which won

12 seats, received the highest

individual scores nationally.

Signor Bossi displacing Bet-

tino Craxi, the Socialist lead-

er, from his long-held perch

fortunes for the neo-fascist

Italian Social Movement,

which won 34 seats.
The Corriere della Sera

vesterday urged the Republi-

cans, who won 27 seats com-

pared to 21 held before, to

rejoin the government on their own terms. "There are

premises for honourable ne-

gotiation," the paper said. So far Ugo La Maifa, the Repub-

lican leader, insists he will not

participate in another alli-

ance unwilling to initiate

change. Achille Occhetto also dis-

above party politics.

Monday.

In the first quarter of the year 97,000 asylum seekers The scheme envisages setarrived and only 54,000 cases were dealt with. The queue is growing by about 15,000 a month and unless the staff is doubled overnight the backlog will take more than a year to clear, even if entry of all asylum seekers is stopped immediately.

German newspapers and politicians, recovering from the initial setback of Sunday's results, yesterday issued a warning against public panie that Germany was on the way to becoming another Nazi state. Bild, the mass circulation daily, posed the question dramatically on its front page, but concluded that this was not possible.



Bild asks whether another Nazi state is possible

Meanwhile Gerhard Frey, the leader of the German People's Union (DVU), that won 93,000 votes in Sunday's state election in Schleswig-Holstein, fell out with Franz Schönhuber, the leader of the

Republicans, who won 530,000 votes in Baden-Württemberg. Herr Frey said in Munich yesterday that he intended to put up candidates throughout Germany in the 1994 federal elections but rejected any idea of forming an alliance with the Republicans. Herr Schönhuber only owed his success to having once been a television personality, he said scornfully.

Herr Schönhuber was equally rude, saying that Herr Frey was nothing but "a collector of Nazi memorabilia". The Republicans, he said, would have nothing to do with a party which was unconstitutional. The DVU has been under close scrutiny by German counter-intelligence for possible breach of the constitution which could lead to it being banned. The latest annual counter-intelligence report devoted four pages to the DVU, concluding that it was not dangerous.

Herr Frey, nevertheless. publishes a successful party newspaper. The circulation is print order, making it the second-largest weekly newspaper after Die Zeit. A livelylooking tabloid called the National Zeitung, it promises to tell its readers the muth. This week's truths include a lead story claiming that a high-level delegation from the World Jewish Congress went to East Berlin in November 1989 "to plot" against unification and that the chancellor is now having

to pay world Jewry's bill. There is a feature about the "criminal British air attack" on Lübeck. "The Allied mass murder of the German civilian population never had the least military importance," the paper said. The DVU was protesting at the British decision to raise a memorial to Sir Arthur "Bomber" Harris, the man "who wanted to turn Germany into a desert".

Readers are told that Berlin is not going to be the capital and that criminals from all over the world now see Germany as an El Dorado, Classified advertisements allow readers to order silk battle flags of the Third Reich.

Coalition will take weeks to form

Christian Democrats seek new alliance

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

President Cossiga began a visit to the United States yes-

THE Italian Christian Democrat party began seeking new allies yesterday after falling below 30 per cent of the vote in a general election for the first time in 46 years. A definitive response from the main candidates to join a widened coalition with the Republicans and the former

communist Democratic Party of the Left (PDS) may not be forthcoming for weeks. Neither party is in a hurry to be seen to betray the voters who cast ballots on Sunday and Monday in favour of farreaching reforms.

terday, much to the disgust of many Christian Democrats who partly blame him for the debacle because of his repeatdate for prime minister if party leaders could not come up with a convincing government formula. There is specu-

ROME (AP) - The official results of the Chamber of Deputies race in	

Parties	1992	Seats	1987	Seats
Christian Democrats Democratic Party of the Left (formerly Communists)	29.7	206	34.3	234
Left (formerly Communists)	16.1	107	26.6	177
Socialists	13.6	99 .	14.3	94
Northern League	8.7	55 35 - 34 27	.5	1
Communist Refoundation	5.6	35_	-	
Italian Social Movement	5.4	34	· 5.9	35 21
Republicans	4.4	27	3.7	21
Liberals	2.8	17	2.1	11
Greens	2.8	16	2.5	13
Social Democrats	2.7	16	3.0	17

Man in the news

Bossi waits for call from Rome

By JOHN PHILLIPS

and fascism." Signor Bossi

said, referring to the gains

made by the Italian Social

Paradoxically, the enor-

mous gains made by the

league probably herald a test-

ing time for the scruffy sena-

tor who La Repubblica, with

typical Roman snobbery, yes-

terday described as "looking

perpenially as if he spent the night in a second-class rail-

way carriage". He has always

been strong on rhetoric and

vague on what programme

the league would try to imple-ment if it had legislative clout.

seriously, as Signor Bossi

says, "a party of government

temporarily in opposition".

he may have to take a back-

seat in bargaining with tradi-

tional parties to more

thoughtful leaders such as

Gianfranco Miglio, the ideo-

logue of the league move-

ment, who is an authority on

constitutional law.

If the devolutionists are

Movement in the south.

WITH 55 seats in the Chamber of Deputies, the League of the North has become overnight the fourth largest party in Italy and Umberto Bossi, its brash leader, is confident that the federalist movement will soon be asked to participate in a government.

"I think they will knock on our door," said Signor Bossi. who is one of only two parliamentarians elected for the league at the last election in 1987. "Keeping us in the refrigerator could be expensive as we are seeing."

The 50-year-old former

rock singer crowned his success by ousting Bettino Craxi. the Socialist leader, from his role as the politician with the most votes in Milan. The league is now the largest party in the Italian business capital with about 18,000 more votes than the Christian Democrats for the Chamber of Deputies.

Signor Bossi takes singlehanded credit for the Christian Democrats losing nearly 5 per cent of their previous vote, or the support of about two million Italians. "Look what's happening to the Christian Democrats. Only

we were able to defeat them. The league's crude appeal to northern taxpayers tired of paying, as they see it, to subsidise the impoverished Mezzogiorno of the south struck a chord not only in Lombardy. Liguria and the Veneto region, where it has done well in the past, but also in Emilia Romagna, the southern boundary of the "Republic of the North" proposed by Signor Bossi, where on average.

it had 10 per cent of the vote. In Parma and Piacenza the league won more than 15 per cent and in Bologna, the capital of the Italian "red belt", it notched up 8 per cent, taken mostly from the former communist Democratic Party of the Left. "The north has chosen federalism and Europe. The south has chosen Africa

per cent of the vote, compared ed attacks on the established in 1987. The caretaker gov-ernment of Giulio Andreotti, political parties. Before he left Rome, the president said he may nominate his own candiwhich groups Christian Democrats, Socialists, Liber-

lation he might choose Giovanni Spadolini, the ge-nial Republican former prime minister, who had

both seats and percent with all votes counted. Also shown are the

Parties	1992	Seats	1987	Seets
Christian Democrats Democratic Party of the Left (formerly Communists)	29.7	206	34.3	234
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Socialists	13.6	99	14.3	94
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Liberals	2.8	17	2.1	11
Greens	2.8	16	2.5	13
Social Democrats	2.7	16	3.0	17

The rest of the votes were scattered among smaller parties, each taking less than 2 percent of the vote.

as the most voted candidate in Milan. Signor Craxa's par-ty slipped from 14 to 13 per cent, the first Socialist decline Army to act in 16 years. His bid to be the next prime minister now is in as buffer question. In Naples, Alessandra Mussolini was in Moldavia elected, reflecting a revival in

Bendery, Moldavia: Andrei Kozyrev, the Russian foreign minister, received a hero's welcome yesterday when he told Russian-speaking separatists of a peace plan to end

Moldavia's ethnic conflict. Mr Kozyrev, who was visiting the breakaway Transdnestr region after attending peace talks between Russia, Moldavia, Ukraine and Romania in Kishinev, the Moldavian capital, on Monday, said former Soviet troops in the republic would act as a

missed the prospect of the PDS becoming a "spare buffer in the lighting. wheel" for Signor Andreotti. Mr Kozyrev's announce ment ran contrary to other reports. A Moldavian foreign However, La Repubblica said yesterday it believes both the Republicans and the PDS ministry spokesman had said could be wooed into a "govthat the ministers at the peace ernment for reforms" or "govtalks had considered using Ukrainian troops as buffers ernment of technicians" headed by a figure seen to be rather than the Russian-controlled 14th Army. (Reuter)

Yeltsin speech paves the path to reform

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA's reformist government appeared to be out of trouble yesterday and wellplaced to embark on further economic change, after a rousing speech to the Russian Congress by President Yeltsin and a short, sharp reminder of the alternatives to reform from Yegor Gaidar, the first deputy premier.

Lost for words: Arnaldo Forlani, the Christian Democrat leader, trying to

explain to reporters yesterday the setback his party suffered in the polls

Congress deputies are likely to approve reforms with a series of qualifications, none of them significant. The government's opponents will attempt to strip Mr Yeltsin of the special powers he was granted last autumn, in particular the power to appoint the government, and will try to enhance the role of parliament in the proposed new

Mr Yeltsin yesterday de-

fended his government's performance. He said that the rouble was strengthening against the dollar and accused the opposition of promoting a Ryzhkov-Pavlov option — after the last two, discredited, former Soviet prime ministers.

He received his most hostile reception since becoming president, but gradually won over his audience with pledges to reduce taxes on industry and agriculture, to include representatives of industry and business in government and to provide additional credits, but only on tough conditions. During questions he disclosed that Russia planned to start guarding its formerly open state border. with old Soviet republics, as soon as possible.

Jet raids greet **Bosnian** statehood

IN SARAJEVO AND TOM WALKER IN BRUSSELS

YUGOSLAV airforce jets yesterday greeted the European Community's recognition of the independence of Bosnia-Herzegovina with dawn raids on two southern towns. Local radio reported six dead.

James Baker, the American Secretary of State, signalled his country's recognition yes-terday of the independence of Bosnia as well as Slovenia and Croatia. In a satellite link from Washington with journalists in Brussels. Moscow. Kiev and Munich, Mr Baker said the US "would act in co-operation" with the European Community on Yugoslav affairs. "As you know, today the United States is recognising the independence of three states, formerly republics of Yugoslavia," he said.

The Yugoslav airforce said it had hit Citluk and Listica in western Herzegovina, in re-sponse to attacks from Croanan forces there.

In spite of continued sporadic sniper fire, people emerged to inspect damage in Sarajevo and shop for bread ına omer essen cades remained in the predominantly Muslim part of town and gunmen checked all cars. Serb militias were also in control of a part of

Bosnia remained in utter political chaos. The two Serb members of its presidency re-

signed along with its Croat prime minister. There was little celebration of the republic's recognition, either officially or on the

streets. Muhammad Cengic, a Muslim and deputy prime minister, said: "We welcome the EC's decision... at least it will discourage all those who want to break up Bosnia."

There were persistent re-ports yesterday that the Yugoslav army in Bosnia was in turmoil. Units in Banja Luka and eastern Herzegovina, including the airforce, were clearly in no mood to recog-nise Bosnian independence. But Mr Cengic said that one of the most senior generals in the republic had told him the army would acknowledge Sarajevo's authority.



committee in January 1990.

They ranged from \$1 mil-

lion to the Portuguese Com-

munist party. and \$900,000

for the Greek comrades to

five-figure sums for smaller

communist movements in

such countries as Nepai.

According to the paper, in

the late 1980s, the Soviet

communists provided cam-

paign funds to electoral can-

didates in France, India and

Pakistan as well as weapons

for communists in Sri Lan-

ka. Also reproduced is a

memorandum urging the

party to come up with more

than \$600,000 to cover the

debts of an Italian news-

paper, or face the "extreme-

ly undesirable" prospect of the publication's anteced-

ents coming to light.

San Marino and Lesotho.

Brussels losing battle on fraud

Strasbourg: A forthcoming report from the European Commission's traud committee says the European Community is losing the battle against international fiddles

of its trade and farm subsidy rules (George Brock writes). In the first six months of last year, customs fraud cases rose by one-third over the figure for the previous half year. The report makes no estimate of the proportion of the EC's £44 billion budget that ends up in the wrong hands. Unofficial estimates vary between 5 and 10 per cent of the amount.

The report paints a picture of harassed officials struggling against lax rules, national governments jealous of their own policing prerogatives, and cunning criminals.

Delors defends EC treaties

Copenhagen: The Maastricht treaties on reform of the European Community cannot be renegotiated if Danes reject them in a referendum on June 2, Jacques Delors, the EC president, said. "One country cannot oblige the others to renegotiate," he told Danish television. Polis show many Danes are opposed to the treaties.

Yesterday in France, he told members of the European parliament that the EC should beware of admitting many new members. (AFP)

Burden looms

Nicosia: British troops could face an extra burden in Cyprus after reports that two countries may withdraw from the UN peacekeeping force. Boutros Boutros Ghali, UN secretary-general, said he did not believe other countries would fill the gap.

Mayor dies

Athens: Antonis Tritsis, an architect and town planner who became mayor of Athens, has died of complications following a stroke. He was 55. He had been elected on government-backed promises to restore some of the city's former glory. (AP)

Strikers beaten

Madrid: Police clashed with striking cleaners at Madrid airport, injuring three and permitting alternative crews to sweep two weeks' garbage. Television footage showed police using batons against the strikers, who were de-manding higher wages. (AP)

Envoy can stay

Amsterdam: The Netherlands has given Traq's former ambassador in The Hague permission to stay in the country, a government official said. Safa Salih al-Falaki quit in January, citing repres-sion under President Saddam Hussein. (Reuter)

Parties sign up

Prague: Forty political groups have registered for Czechoslovakia's election on June 5 and 6, officials said. Campaigning begins on May 13. Parties must win at least 5 per cent of the vote in the proportional representation system to win seats. (Reuter)

Girl sees visions Stockholm: About 45,000

people have gone to a church in Sodertalje, south of Stockholm, in the past three weeks to be blessed by a 16-year-old girl who claims to have seen Jesus Christ, the Holy Mother Mary, and the Lebanese saint, Mar Charbel.

Pravda returns to bite the hand that feeds it

PRAVDA, formerly the official daily newspaper of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, has returned from the grave to haunt President Yeltsin. It reappeared on the news-stands vesterday for the first time in three weeks. "We are with you again, dear readers, we will be with you for ever," proclaimed a message on the masthead, which has restored the image of Lenin for the first time since the failed coup in August after which the paper was suspended for several days. Having failed to keep

pro-business, pro-Western

hate. But if Pravda felt any gratitude, it was not showing it. In a vitriolic address to delegates at the Russian Congress of People's Deputies, the newspaper - which plans three editions a week - accused the country's

the party have now received

present rulers of hypocrisy, greed, even treachery, in tones reminiscent - ironically - of George Orwell's Animal Farm. afloat in the icy waters of free enterprise, the paper established by Lenin in 1912 managed to secure "People who only a year ago were agitating for the life-saving credit from the abolition of all privileges for

government that it loves to luxurious villas and settled into armoured-plated cars ... behind whose darkened windows one cannot see the dreadful tenements, the decaying hospitals, the empty pharmacies, the ruined nur-

Lenin is back on the masthead of the

daily he founded, as it rails against

sery schools," it thundered. Lenin's stern gaze and bald pate are seen in reproductions of the medals earned by the newspaper for its loyalty to the communist cause: "Medals earned by generations of Pravda readers, who faithfully served the motherland with their pens in peace and war", should be published, but it

Russia's rulers, Bruce Clark writes

readers are reminded. One of the reborn paper's most unlikely features is a brief interview with Mr Yeltsin, in which he wishes the newspaper well but urges it not to add to public bitterness."I think Pravda

should take the course of democracy." Mr Yeltsin opines, drawing a tart comment from the newspaper that it supports reform but not immiseration. Pravda is not the only institution to be left stranded

by the collapse of Soviet communism, as was made clear today by some juicy revelations about the \$200 million (£115 million) instate funds that the Soviet ruling party allegedly fun-nelled to friendly foreign movements in its final de-

tions decreed by the central

cade of existence. Komsomoiskaya Pravda, formerly the communist youth daily, which adapted to the modern world long before its sister paper, pub-lished a list of alleged dona-

Woodrow Wyatt

The voters will spot that Labour's plans spell bankruptcy

n November 20, 1990, before the first round of the Tory leadership contest, I wrote here that if Mrs Thatcher were deposed I would "advise my millions of News of the World readers to vote for Mr Kinnock". So why have I advised them to vote for Mr Major? Because Mrs Thatcher, to whom I remain close, passionately wants him to win. She is convinced that in his own style he is committed to thrusting forward the revolution she started and which transformed Britain. She is certain a Kinnock victory would spin us back to the gruesome 1970s, and that it would take a following Tory government ten years to undo the damage. Who am I to disagree with Mrs Thatcher?

Superficially the polls look bad for a Tory overall majority. But the much-vaunted ICM/PA poll of 10,460 voters giving Labour a 2.5 per cent lead was flawed. The interviews covered only half the constituencies and were conducted between Tuesday and Friday last week As Harold Wilson remarked, "a week is a long time in politics". So far the rival statistics have prevented us seeing the simple truth, but it is fast becoming clear. John Smith made several assertions last week. He would not devalue the pound. To keep it stable he would use up Bank of England reserves, put up interest rates and impose personal and business credit controls. He would not seek to hold inflation at its present 4.1 per cent or drive it lower, but considers the average EC 5.5 per cent rate acceptable.

Foreign money men are not stupid. Already fearing a socialist win most of them, like the Saudi Arabians, have started shifting investments from Britain. If the socialists actually won, the rush would be a torrent. To hold the pound and retrieve foreign money would need a long spell of very high interest rates of around 17 per cent. Mortgage payments and house repossessions would soar. Credit controls on buying goods mean higher deposits and shorter repay-ment terms. This plus much higher interest rates would kill recovery, and unemployment would gather headlong

ohn Smith would be unable to control inflation, which would soon approach the 27 per cent achieved by the last Labour government. The tiny notional gains offered to voters in Mr Smith's alternative budget would vanish as inflation savaged the value of pensions and all in the land found themselves far worse off. That is one clear, simple, truthful message Mr Major should hammer today: recovery is impossible under the socialists.

He must ram home too the sharp difference between Tories and Labour on immigration. The Tories intend to keep the modern monarchy must be it to an absolute minimum. The socialists and be seen to be above party would let it rip, obeying the new EC political strife; partisanship of immigrant quota rules, reversing the any kind would not only be self-Asylum Bill's screening of the 90 per cent | defeating but could end in the bogus political refugee applications from abolition of the monarchy itself. allowing in the usual 50,000 a year from the new Commonwealth and elsewhere. (If Britain is as ghastly as Mr Kinnock says, why do so many want to come here?) Voters, of whatever ethnic origin, are terrified of changing our present, peaceful balanced society into one torn by racial strife as at least 150,000 new immigrants arrive each year. They know that in Germany and France, excessive immigration has led to the dramatic rise of extreme right-wing racist parties.

Today Mr Major must vigorously re-inforce the hardening of his vote. I predict the Tories will poll around 39-40 per cent: Labour around 35 per cent, and the Liberal Democrats about 23.5 per cent. This should give Mr Major an overall majority of between 25 and 50.

Peter Stothard on how a beat poet with a radical message gingers up the American presidential race

t was good to see Allen Ginsberg performing in yes-terday's New York Democratic primary. Who better than an elderly beat poet to take us back to the last year in which Britain and the United States both had elections. 1964, when our side chose Harold Wilson and the Amerisufficiently for that, he once cans anointed Lyndon Johnson. greeted him as "Prime Minister when the young were watching the first Beatles film, the old were Pearson", the man who was mourning Harpo Marx and ev-

pened to Mr Khruschev? Ginsberg has been working in Greenwich Village over the past few days with the "Brown for President" campaign. He is grizzlier now: his voice a hoarser grunt. But he mixes calls for political change with incitements to imaginative sex acts in much the same way as in 1964. "One sun in each solar system: one anus each," he called out to bemused Brown supporters in Washington

eryone was wondering what hap-

Square last Thursday. Democrats are tascinated by the prospect of a Labour govern-ment in Britain. It suggests that history is once more on their side. remember that Lyndon Johnson's chief interest in Harold Wilson was to flatter him into sending British troops to fight

Verse and worse in New York the Vietnam war, or that having failed to flatter even Mr Wilson

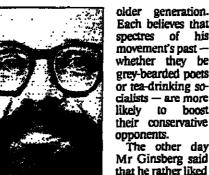
running Canada at the time. New York memories tend not to go back so far. Those who accuse Margaret Thatcher of being President Reagan's pathfinder hope that Neil Kinnock can do the same for their own candidate of the left. The Brown camp, however, has not been reading many English newspapers recently. "If John Lennon were still alive, would he be out with Kinnock?". I was asked, while Mr Ginsberg groaned on about "Sarcoma Plutonic Oregon".

I very much doubted it. I replied. Unless the former Beatle had changed his act and become a media-mogul or Channel Four film-maker, Mr Kinnock would have been happier for him stay in New York. "Jerry Brown is more like Mr Kinnock's enemy. Tony Benn," I said, "an upper-class radical who wants to tear down

every national institution except the trade unions." But "Brownie" companions had, quite reasonably, never heard of Tony Benn. The Brownies see their

man as part of an international change, stretching from Moscow to Los Angeles. If Britain wants to join, it is quite welcome, whatever the details about Kinnocks and Kaufmans and Benns.

Governor Clinton's camp has been keeping a more informed watch on the battle for Downing Street. Clinton's followers know that their formula for change is indeed comparable to Mr Kinnock's. Both men have worked to reform their parties from the inside. Both have beaten traditionalists and extremists of an



Allen Ginsberg, doyen of the old poets' society

older generation. Each believes that spectres of his movement's past whether they be grey-bearded poets or tea-drinking socialists — are more their conservative

Mr Ginsberg said that he rather liked Governor Clinton. guilty at exerting all his effort on behalf of his Cali-

fornian neighbour and sometime fellow Ashram-visitor. The Clinton team has not, however, returned the message of goodwill. A campaign worker pointed me to Howl, the Ginsberg poem that won him a worldwide reputation in 1956. Line 16 talks of "hailucinating Arkansas" - not the kind of omen Mr Clinton wished to invoke in the week when "not

inhaling" marijuana had already caused him quite enough trouble. Governor Clinton's advisers are doubtful about whether there is any real connection between the voting cycles across the Atlantic. The more isolationist the voter here in New York, the more likely he or she is to believe in a hot band of radical air spreading across the globe. Traditional in-ternationalists, including those in the White House, are much more

The Clinton camp can, however, see the advantage in suggest-ing that Mr Kinnock (if he wins) is cut from the same cloth as its own 1992 champion. An early meeting is even on the cards. Governor Clinton may not believe in any connection between the rightward swing in America and that in Britain at the beginning of the 1980s, but there is every benefit in suggesting that there was. John Major and George Bush can easily be stereotyped as coming from the same

President Bush decided this week to set out his own radical agenda for America, offering a modest campaign finance reform and restrictions on now long congressmen can keep their seats on Capitol Hill. Up in the Oval Office he may be isolated from reality, but even there the smell of people's frustration and anger has seeped through. He has temporarily beaten back Patrick Buchanan, and Mr Brown is Governor Clinton's problem, but there is still the hydra's new head to slay: H. Ross Perot, the Texas billionaire who threatens to use \$100 million of his own money to run an independent presidential race in November.

The prospect of all that money is worrying to the White House. But it is far more worrying to the Clinton campaign. If Mr Perot does spend at that level ignoring the legal limits set for those who want federal matching funds. President Bush will have no option but to follow.

America's liberal Democrats
could be left looking as povertystricken as Britain's Liberal Democrats. The old poet who currently symbolises the year of the out-sider may soon be exchanged for an old banker.

How the Queen picks her man

A hung parliament would pose unwelcome problems at the palace, explains Lord St John of Fawsley

mains very much on the cards after the polling booths close tomorrow. What is likely to happen after that?

A coalition government is much the least likely outcome. The various parties are too far apart, and in any case, as Disraeli put it, "England does not love coalitions". The only true exam-

ples this century have needed a world war to bring them about. The process of forming a government starts with the Queen. She is guided by one golden rule:

which should guide her through the labyrinth is clear enough. She must send for the man for woman) who is likely to command the confidence of the House of Commons. I put it this way because it is not necessary for a prime minister to be able to command a majority of the votes in the Commons. Anyone can be asked to form a government who has a reasonable prospect of not being turned out of office immediately by the House. Hence with a hung parliament a minority government immediately becomes a

There have been 23 general elections in Britain this century,

espite the gyrations of the opinion polls, a no result: two in 1910, and hung parliament rethe others in 1923, 1929 and February 1974. In each case the impasse was resolved by the formation of a minority

dministration.
For most of the 19th century, an incumbent prime minister who failed to secure a clear majority at the polls waited to meet Parliament for his fate to be decided. Disraeli was the first prime minister to recognise the effective sovereignty of the electorate, and in 1868 he resigned as soon as the election result was known. But he knew that he had lost the election and that a Liberal government would be formed.

Baldwin took a different course in 1923, when the Conservatives were the largest party. He waited for his government to be defeated tendering his resignation to the king. Party political calculation played a part in this, since he wished the Liberals to be seen as a party who first put Labour (the second largest party) into office; but still he acted with total constitutional propriety.

So did Edward Heath after the first election of 1974, when he declined to resign at once and waited to see if he could reach an accord with the Liberals. He was criticised at the time, but he was within his rights to make the attempt. His difficulty was that even with an acquiescent Liberal party he needed the support of the Ulster Unionists to remain



in office, and after Sunningdale this was not forthcoming. When it became clear that his government would not survive a first vote in the Commons, he quite properly resigned. The Queen then sent for Harold Wilson to form a government.

In reaching this decision, the Queen knew that Mr Wilson had a reasonable chance of forming a

government which would last at least for a time. She must also have born in mind that he had emerged from the election as the leader of the party with the largest number of seats in Parliament; but the first consideration was constitutionally more significant than the second.

If tomorrow's election produces no clear verdict, the initiative lies not with Her Majes-ty but with Mr Major as incum-bent prime minister. If he judges that he has a reasonable chance of securing the support of the Commons, he may well decide to stay in office, to meet Parliament and to let the House decide his fate. Constitutionally, such a course could not be faulted, but if

the Conservative government suf-

at the price, and you get John Major thrown in as well," says a spokeswoman. Yet Paddy Ash-down's campaign seems to have offered the best value of all. He has

not only covered the most miles,

but comes in as the cheapest: just

£4.500 for some of the most fre-netic campaigning ever seen at a British election.

A NEWLY discovered photograph of Tennyson may hold the key to saving a historic house on the Isle

of Wight from the developers. The

print, together with another of Carlyle, has been found in an al-

burn of pictures taken by the poet laureate's great friend Julia Mar-

garet Cameron. It bears the in-scription "To Nellie Mundy with

much love", which foxed both the Cameron Trust and the Isle of

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Freshwater hope

fers a devastating loss of seats, then politically it might be a grave error. Effectively Mr Major would have lost the election and he could be seen as the head of a rejected administration desperately clinging to office. The most likely course for him to take in

such circumstances is to resign.

The Queen would then almost certainly send for the Leader of the Opposition to form a new government, on the grounds that providing an alternative government is part of his duty, and that Mr Kinnock would be the man most likely to command the confidence of the Commons.

here then would this leave Mr Ashdown and his demand for electoral reform as a price of parliamentary support? Almost certainly both would be left on the shelf. Neither of the other parties could agree to proportional representation tout court, and if either did it could not guarantee to deliver.

A major constitutional change of this kind could not be made without a further general election or at least a referendum. Negotia-tions on the matter would probably take so long that the kaleidoscope of politics would have been shaken up again by the time a conclusion had been reached. This happened after the election of 1929, when it took over two years for agreement to be reached on the alternate vote, and the government was then swept away in the economic storm of 1931, before it could be

One further major constitutional issue would arise from a hung parliament. Does the Queen have ii io reluse a dissolution ol Parliament to an incumbent prime minister, or must she automatically grant the request? In constitutional form, the prime minister does not advise a dissolution of Parliament, but requests one. A theoretical right to refuse undoubtedly resides in the Crown, but it has not been exercised this century. A refusal in practice could expose the monarch to great dangers of seeming to be politically partisan. I cannot conceive that the Queen would be tempted to follow this course, and no one who has the welfare of our monarchical constitution at heart would be likely to try to persuade



...and moreover

Teil, I shall be all right tomorrow, shan't I? I stand, even as I am standing where I shall be standing. because I shall know where everything else stands, too, as the result of a little bleep, and as soon as that little bleep bleeps, I shall cast my vote. Everyone else standing in Dersingham Road polling station will also hear the little bleep, but it will mean nothing to them, because they will be standing in secret serried ranks in the becurtained votebattery, unable to see what it is that is bleeping.
As a matter of fact, I may have

a little difficulty in seeing it myself, because it will be attached to my belt by a clever detachable device, but since the device has so far proved to be cleverer than I am. viz it is on my belt as I write because I cannot detach it. I may have to take my belt off to see it before I vote, and if I have to do that. I may not get a vote at all. For if you were an election officer and you saw a torso concealed behind a half-curtain taking its belt off, and the leg of its trousers beginning to falter. you would feel yourself to be derelict of your sworn duty if you did not shout "Oy!" and send your boy outside to fetch a constable.

I see I shall have to explain about the bleeping thing. because I sense your mounting impatience, you are serious people with serious minds to make up and time running out, and you haven't got a bleeping

thing and the other the device for attaching the thing to your belt. There was also a letter from soneone signing himself Mike, who lives at Mercury House, Brentside Executive Centre, Brentford. I would not normally give a second thought to a letter from somewhere called Brentside Executive Centre, but since Mike had also included a delivery note from someone signing herself Samantha, keen to tell me that she lived at Unit 2 of Brentside Executive Centre, I thought I had better read on, because you never know your luck

But first, Mike's letter. It informs me that my interest in the general election has now reached fever pitch, and that I need to Stay abreast of developments. To this end, he is enclosing a pre-programmed Mercury pager, which will bleep every time there is important election news, telling me to pull it off my belt and look at its little screen to see what that news is. Mike has also enclosed a 32page instruction booklet packed with fascinating stuff, including the thought-provoking information that the pager's memory has 1984 characters in it, and that it has an "Escalert" "Munction whereby the bleep starts soft and sirens up to a maximum volume "to announce reception of 'special' messages, and to override the pager's vibrator

operation". I could not discover anything

thing to help you. I have. It arrived on Tuesday morning, in two boxes, one containing the further about this vibrator operation, probably just as well, but all may be revealed if I get a "special" message. Oddiy, I haven't received one yet — I should have thought Prime minister's ear fills with egg would have qualified, but there you are — all I have received is a lot of stock exchange informa-tion and similar stuff hardly worth dropping your trousers for, and such newsflashes as the one telling me there was less ozone over Europe than ever before, no electoral help at all, given that I cannot remember where our Natural Law Party candidate stands on this one, I think his plan was to get everyone to eat a factory, though that may have been his health policy. But I have a graver problem

Mike (and indeed Samantha. if she'd care to meet me one evening in the Brentside Executive Wine-U-Like and discuss it over a Malibu or two), which is that I have absolutely no idea where Mercury Paging Ltd stands politically. Floating as I am, I could well be a sucker for an Escalert ™ tomorrow morning telling me, as I have pencilpoised, that Neil Kinnock has been caught in flagrante with Imelda Marcos, or that John Major is a Kray triplet, or that Paddy Ashdown has just shot

somebody's dog.
In short, how can I be sure of the impartiality of the information the pager wants me to receive? Face it, brothers, anything with 1984 characters in it needs careful watching.

Initial reactions

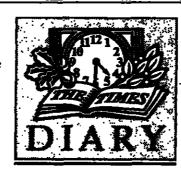
JOHN MAJOR may have have ruled out a deal with the Liberal Democrats, but he has had a gobetween in Ulster wooing the Unionists for almost the entire campaign. He is Jonathan Caine - special adviser to Peter Brooke. the Northern Ireland secretary and his report on how to to do a deal with the Ulster Unionists will land on John Major's desk

tomorrow. While Brooke has spent only three days in the province, Caine has stayed there throughout, ensuring that the Unionist MPs are in amenable mood should their support be needed to keep a Tory government in power.

Caine was appointed in Decem-ber, the first political appointment at the Northern Ireland Office since 1985. Senior Conservatives denied that he had been given the job to lead a charm offensive, but he has worked assiduously ever since at rebuilding bridges with the Unionists and has close personal relationships with many of them including James Moly-neaux, leader of the Ulster Union-

ist party. This week Caine returned to Central Office to prepare a de-tailed report on how get the Unionists on board. By Friday it could be the most vital weapon in the Tories' armoury if they are still dinging to power.

"I have known Jim Molyneaux for some years. We get on well," says Caine. He seems already to have enjoyed considerable success. The Ulster Unionist leader has been spotted sporting a badge, produced in Central Office, proudly proclaiming "JM for PM". Whether the initials stand for John Major or James Molyneaux, he isn't saying.



● Tory Central Office clearly needs all the help it can get, but this is ridiculous. The latest "daily notes" information pack, sent to all 645 Tory candidates, bears the headline: "Why animals would vote Conservative (if they could)".

Coach parties

LABOUR'S economic manage ment skills are looking a little threadbare after the parties this week calculated the final costs of their leaders' battle buses. Neil Kinnock's tour is the most

expensive, with journalists being asked to pay £2,000 on top of a deposit of £3,000. While ITN paid the extra immediately, both the BBC and BSkyB demanded a breakdown of the costs. Labour declined, and the camera crews were forced to pay up anyway.

Richard Bestic, one of the journalists on the tour, says: "If we didn't pay up we were warned that we would be chucked off the bus and refused access. I don't know how they can justify these costs." Journalists travelling with Kinnock for a day on the south coast were charged £200 to cover a bus to Waterloo, a second class rail ticket to Southampton and a coach connection at the other end. Yesterday the Tories gleefully

Wight county council, owner of the photographs. However, Tennyson's published letters include one dated October 1849 to an Elizabeth Susan Mundy, which may lead to further discoveries of valuable photographs. The last works by Cameron to be sold went to a Japanese buyer for \$5 million. announced that their package had been costed at £4,700. "It's a snip

The sale of Julia Margaret's photos may be the only way to save

her house," says Hugh Noves, son of the poet Alfred Noyes and a trustee of the Cameron Trust. The county council, however, regards the photos as more important than her former home at Freshwater. where Tennyson was a frequent caller. The photos are not for sale, they insist. The campaign to save the house is still far short of the necessary £300,000. The bulldozers are almost at the gates.

her so do so.

• Adverts have gone up for Brit-ain's biggest ever pet show at Earls Court next month. Take the family, but on no account take man's best friend. "No pets ad-mitted", the advert declares.

Mowgli's mogul

STEVEN SPIELBERG had two reasons for being in London last night. As well as the première of Hook, he was meeting two unknown British writers, whom he has signed up to work on his next project, a full length animated fea-ture film of an obscure musical,

Just So. The writers, George Stiles and Anthony Drew, both aged 30, have worked together since they were at Exeter University, and will chartly for to I an Annalysis. shortly fly to Los Angeles to work with Spielberg. They will be accompanied by Cameron Mackintosh, who put up £100,000 when their musical, based on four of Kipling's Just So stories, was first staged at a fringe theatre two years ago. The production was not a huge success, and a planned trans-fer to the West End never happened. But two of Spielberg's producers were impressed and sug-

gested the project to their boss.

Stiles and Drewe will fly to
Hollywood fresh from the somewhat less glamorous surroundings of Buxton, where they have just finished performing some of the songs from Just So.

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MAJOR'S FIRST TEST

1 he 1992 election is now too close to call. Evidence that Labour and the Conservatives are running neck and neck has raised the possibility of a hung parliament and given a prominence to the Liberal Democrats that belies their poll rating, which remains below 1983 and

residential race

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The prospect of a hung parliament is not a result of the electorate wishing to see neither of the two main parties in power. In that case, the Liberal Democrats would win a majority of popular votes and doubtless form a government. A hung parliament is in prospect because support for the two main parties appears equally divided, a wholly different matter. Those who truly want Paddy Ashdown to decide for them whether John Major or Neil Kinnock should be prime minister can vote for Mr Ashdown. Everybody else should choose for themselves by voting Labour or Conservative.

The case for Labour is stronger than it has been at any time this decade. The party Mr Kinnock inherited from Lord Callaghan and Michael Foot was a wretched thing. Its leadership had split. It was sustained by a determination on the part of the big unions that it should not be superseded by the Liberals and Social Democrats. That determination was harnessed by Mr Kinnock in 1985 and a solid compact was formed: the unions and the party conference took a diminished role in the counsels of the party. In return Mr Kinnock would deliver an electable Labour team, new image, new faces, new policies, no questions asked.

Mr Kinnock has delivered, establishing himself as one of Labour's more remarkable political managers. He has done so at no small cost to his own credibility. Unilateral nuclear disarmament has been jettisoned, some would say just when some of its tenets have become plausible. Anti-Europeanism was also abandoned. Labour has dropped the union protectionism it once promised; indeed its spokesmen vie with each other in their machismo towards the unions. Nationalisation has disappeared from the manifesto. The shadow Chancellor, John Smith, has clothed his plans in unprecedented fiscal respectability, to the point of promising to raise taxes in the trough of recession. Even the commitment to economic and social planning, core of Labour's corporatism in the 1960s and 1970s, has been reduced to the oddity of a "national

In addition, Labour has responded to some of the grosser mistakes of the Thatcher years with policies that could revive some of the democratic life of the nation. The party's commitment to local and regional government, while vulnerable to its congenital disease of bureaucracy, is well-founded. So too is its desire to return to the true accountability of an uncapped local property tax (which should include bu policy on devolution is sound. Its proposals to reform the constitution in matters of freedom of information and human rights reflect a proper desire for consensus. Nothing alienated Tory support in the country more than Margaret Thatcher's confrontationalism in pursuit of her more radical reforms, not least the misguided ones in local government.

assessment".

But these are all cherries picked from a larger pie. The question that Labour must answer is whether Mr Kinnock's new look is cosmetic or real, whether the party's structures are now robust against the pressures to which the Wilson and Callaghan administrations succumbed. Mr Kinnock will of course tell the electorate to try him and see. He protests that he has changed his mind on virtually all substantive items of his manifesto, not because polisters tell him to but because he has genuinely changed his mind. To those former colleagues whom he excoriated for believing what he now believes and whom he drove into the wilderness, such words must sound unconvincing.

r Kinnock's spending plans are legion. The Times' own calculations estimate that these plans are just affordable assuming a steady rate of economic growth from today's low point. But if the Tories have found it near impossible to hold to their spending plans, how much harder will it be for Labour? A vast head of water has built up behind the Treasury dam. Mr Kinnock's spending ministers - Robin Cook at health, Jack Straw at education, Bryan Gould at local government, John Prescon at transport - are dam-busters to a man. If Labour really intends, as Mr Kinnock has said, to appropriate to the public sector the surplus of economic growth,

that surplus will swiftly evaporate. What is important here is not so much the explicit as the implicit. To what haven does a prime minister under pressure return in time of trouble? Lord Callaghan, in a famous incident in 1979, professed to the unions that he was "prostrate before you". Mr Kinnock might put it differently, but it will be these same public-sector unions to whom he has given gratuitous comfort during this campaign. It is they who want to return the public sector substantially to the terms and conditions obtaining in the 1970s, and who have forced Mr Kinnock's dam-busters to pledge as much. It is they who are strong on Labour's backbenches. It is they who sponsored Mr Kinnock's new model party. Will they give in first, or will the strain be felt on public borrowing, interest rates, the

private sector and growth? Mr Kinnock has no plausible answers to such questions. He smiles and says, trust me. He is a deeply conservative politician, made more so by the trimmings of the past five years. His vision is no longer Marxist in origin, more akin to that pronounced by Harold Wilson in 1963, a vague modernism allied to an equally vague egalitarianism, its edges hardened only in contrast to a tired Tory government. He would be a prisoner of his civil servants, a prisoner having to

adjudicate constant warfare between Mr Smith's Treasury and the spending baronies. Such adjudication must ultimately be rooted in ideology. Tory ideology states that private spending should take a rising share of the nation's wealth. Mr Kinnock wants the public sector to do so. That is the essential difference between them.

A Labour vote would thus not be a radical departure, a gamble on a new future for Britain. It would be a gamble on retesting an old theory, that public-sector consumption and investment can supply the fuel of capitalist economic growth. For all the abuse that Labour can heap on Tory attempts to find other fuel, Labour is merely returning to an exhausted pump. A vote for Mr Kinnock would be a vote for the Restoration, a retracing of steps to old verities by those whose special interests were threatened by the radicalism of the 1980s.

hat would a Tory vote be? Any party that has been in power for 13 Sir. "Blackmail" is the word you use trials and convictions, not all of them spent ones. Elections are not supposedly to punish past behaviour, but they are opportunities to review, preview and perhaps encourager les autres. The Tories must also overcome a widespread public mood for a change of government for the health of the system, to flush out the conduits of patronage, to refresh the parts of the body politic other

reshuffles never reach. The party under Mrs Thatcher was partisan in its appointments to public office. It justified this partiality by the need to take on vested interests and push ahead with "supply side" reform. Yet it was expeditious in tackling the unions and subsidised industries, but proved hesitant in its own backyard. Health and higher education, broadcasting, the railways and public utilities, the civil service were either reformed too late for any benefit to be noticeable, or were not reformed at all, leaving only a resentment at what many professions saw as a lack of faith in their work. Labour, for better or worse, has found ways of expressing such faith and is benefiting accordingly.

A more serious obstacle for the Tories lies in the dominant issue at the election, the performance of the economy. Ever since its fateful entry into the European exchange rate mechanism in 1990, the government has seemed to lie recumbent in a straitjacket. There has been much debate over whether that straitjacket needed to be worn so tight. This newspaper and others have said no; more positive moves could have been made to expand consumption and mitigate recession. Now at last industry and commerce appear on the brink of recovery, but this may be too late for the government's salvation.

Can the Tories surmount these obstacles? The answer until recently appeared to be yes. | CHRIS AUGUST, Governments should not be changed for the 8 Trevanion Road, W14. sake of change if change is for the worse. Democracy in Britain would survive if Mr Kinnock were not to be prime minister next week. An election is to choose the best qualified leader and team for the next five vears in a nation's history. It is not about fairness and certainly not about gambles. The central tasks facing government over this period are managing a return to economic growth, a reordering of Britain's relations with its European partners and improvement to the public services.

The Tory prospectus on the last is clear. It is to press on towards greater efficiency, tardily and painfully initiated in the health service. These moves are aimed partly at de facto or de jure privatisation, as with the prisons, the railways, some hospitals, some of the social services. Or they are aimed at using market mechanisms to improve internal incentives to give customers a better service. The telltale of Labour's programme is the lack of awareness in its manifesto that anything was seriously wrong with the welfare state it bequeathed the Tories in 1979. Tory direction of public service can easily be criticised, but it has been set on the right course. To dismantle almost all of it, as Labour promises, would be inexcusable.

On managing recovery, Tory policy is equally simple: not to permit the overheating that occurred in 1988-9; not to impose excessive burdens on the private sector; to restrain public spending and to continue a policy of shifting the tax burden from taxes on income and savings to those on expenditure. There may be many a slip twixt cup and lip, but these are sensible policies requiring confident implementation. Labour rejects each one either in whole or part.

Integral to such rejection is the divergent approach of the two parties towards Europe. Labour appears to be committed to an extreme Delors position on European union. favouring the Maastricht social chapter, bigger regional and industrial subsidies and probably a single currency. Labour was fiercely opposed to the stand taken by Mr Major at Maastricht. Bluntly, Mr Kinnock would have signed anything Brussels put on the table. He maintains that the British economy will actually be strengthened by the various constraints of the social chapter and economic union, despite the growing doubts of other European states. Mr Kinnock has discovered in European corporatism a grander Jerusalem perhaps than Mr Smith will permit him to build within Britain. For his reactionary vision to guide the British presidency, and all of Europe, later this year is a grim prospect.

These policies, public sector management, the conduct of recovery and the approach to Europe, radically divide the two main parties. It is a divide of ideology and of collective interest rather than of individuals. But John Major is on the right side of that divide. He has emerged during his brief reign as prime minister as a likeable, competent and honest leader of his country. He deserves to be given a first vote of confidence at tomorrow's election.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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the case for PR

From Professor Emeritus Ivor Gowan

Sir, Mr Heath is right to call for a parliamentary enquiry into the electoral system (report, April 4, later editions). I do not believe that most Conservatives reject the idea of proportional representation: on the contrary, they are only too conscious of the unfairness and inadequacy of our existing arrangements. Government by consent is generally held to be one of the main prerequisites of democracy, and we have manifestly not been getting this for many

Yours faithfully IVOR GOWAN, 17 Wychwood Paddocks, Charlbury, Oxford.

From Mr David Faull

years has amassed a long record of in your leading article of April 6 to describe Paddy Ashdown's insistence on a promise of proportional repre-sentation before deciding which of the main parties he would choose to make his post-election partner. It is an ugly word. It would surely be better applied to the Tories for threatening us with a socialist gov-ernment if we do not vote for them while maintaining a voting system which they believe gives the electorate only that limited choice.

Yours faithfully, DAVID FAULL Sedgemoor House, Church Lane, Westonzovland, Somerset,

From Mr Michael S. Moss

Sir, "Cold calling" as a means of selling fitted kitchens and double glazing is bad enough; but to be coldcalled, as I was last night, by a political party quoting one of its own surveys in order to encourage tactical voting debases the whole democratic process. The Liberal Democrats. should know better.

Yours sincerely, MICHAEL S. MOSS. 6 Kirklee Gardens, Glasgow. April 7.

From Mr Chris August

Sir, Election campaigning has been full of discussion about electoral reform. I agree that proportional representation should be closely examined and not introduced as part of a deal between parties; but why is it that none of the politicians have suggested that such a fundamental change in election procedures should as a first step be decided by the electorate in a referendum?

Yours faithfully.

From Mrs Patricia M. Roberts Sir, What would proportional representation lead to but a hung parliament - in perpetuity?

PATRICIA M. ROBERTS. 12 Mansfield Terrace. Budleigh Salterton, Devon.

Cost of restoration

From Lord Grantley Sir, The interesting article by John Young on April 1 about the superb manor, Ightham Mote in Kent, invites certain comments by the owner of this house, Markenfield, equally moated and built in 1310 or 30 years earlier than Ightham Mote.

The structure of Markenfield is entirely limestone (other than a small amount of the crenellations restored about 1890, alas in sandstone) and is almost completely unaltered since its construction in 1310 apart from various inside alterations.

Mr Young reports that there is a restoration programme at Ightham Mote involving no less than £7,500,000. When I inform you that restoration of this house involved me in under 1 per cent of this amount including most helpful advice and

'Unloved' landmark

Sir, Could someone please point out

ω Craig Seton ("Bank offers to save unloved landmark", April 4) that the

Rounda building in Birmingham to

which he refers is cylindrical not

Definition apart, there is surely

something to be said for retaining a

building which has "become a visual

symbol of the city", even although it

is no more like a "Coca Cola tin"

From Professor Gerald Dix

spherical.

than it is a sphere:

GERALD DIX,

13 Friars Quay,

Off the rails

a train. It is a bus.

JOHN MCANALLY,

32 Finborough Road, SW10,

Yours sincerely.

April 6.

From Mr John McAnally

yesterday - Sunday - trying to

return by train to London from the

south coast, I now fully appreciate

Mr Timothy West's letter (March

31) and can answer his question. BR

refer to their mode of transport as a

"service" rather than a train because

for a large part of the journey it is not

Business letters, page 25

Yours truly.

Norwich.

April 6.

Party politics and Pros and cons of devolution issue

nents of an independent Scotland envisage that it should be a member of the EC. Since it is a condition of membership that member states should pay a proportion of VAT receipts to Brussels, it follows that Scotland would have to continue with this tax.

this case Scotland.

It will therefore be necessary to institute the same VAT paperwork on all commercial transactions across the new frontier between England and Scotland, as is the case on the frontier between the Irish Republic and Northern Ireland. Since the economies of Scotland and England are far more closely integrated than those of any other European neighbours, these frontier posts will be the busiest in Europe.

and I have considerable sympathy with this desire, realise that this formidable encumbrance to trade will arise?

The White House, Dunley. Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire. April 5.

From Lord Kilmaine

Will they meekly acquiesce to the precedent of doubtful legality by which some of their number helped to strip Irish peers of parliamentary rights, or will they campaign to keep their seats?

English monarch.

Sir, What a witches' cauldron of policies we are being offered! What could have been a vote on the major cation and social care in a time of serious recession has been bedevilled by the introduction of massive

Scotland lead to the end of the United Kingdom? How much better

Yours truly, MICHAEL GROSVENOR MYER. 34 West End. Haddenham, Cambridge. April 6.

Scotland and England, bringing

St Albans, Hertfordshire.

From Mr David Shepherd

Sir, For those of us in Scotland this is

no ordinary general election. We

have the stark contrast: Great Britain - or Scotland on its own.

and the Lib Dems may claim. Their

policies are but stepping stones to the

ultimate destruction of the Union. In practice a "half-way house" would

not last and in the meantime would

The Scottish National party's

promise is the real threat facing

Scotland: a backward-looking policy

of pointless self-destruction in pur-

At this election, this very special election, there is only one party that stands unequivocally for Great Brit-

ain and the United Kingdom - the

Sir, If this election results in a small

Labour majority, it will be yet another case of a Conservative Eng-

land bowing to the will of a Labour

Celtic fringe. On this occasion that fringe will also provide a large

proportion, if not the majority, of our

How about home rule for Eng-

Hazel Rough, Hartfield, Sussex.

Sir, As a member of the United

Kingdom for over 50 years (English branch), I hope that if Mr Kinnock

offers a referendum on Scottish/

Welsh devolution, and its con-

sequences, we will all have a vote in it

if he gets the chance to, that is.

From Mr Michael Grosvenor Myer

Sir, You say in your leader (April 6)

on the Elgin Marbles: "If by freak of history the Stone of Scone was held

abroad the Scots would rightly assert

Well, it is: it's in England.

Bronte death theory

From Professor Emeritus P. Rhodes

Sir, Although the American gynae-

cologist, Professor Gerson Weiss.

may believe that Charlotte Bronte

died not from hypermesis gravi-darum (morning sickness) but from Addison's disease (report, March

31), Mrs Gaskell records that "Mar-

tha ... tried to cheer her with the

thought of the baby that was com-

ing". That seems conclusive enough.

for women, even of last century, knew

about early symptoms in pregnancy.

especially the absence of menstrua-

son's disease cannot be ruled out, but

that of pregnancy sickness seems still

Obviously the hypothesis of Addi-

tion and breast signs.

to be the more likely.

PHILIP RHODES.

! Wakerley Court, Wakerley.

Oakham, Leicestershire.

Yours sincerely,

Conservative party. I will vote for it.

Yours sincerely, DAVID SHEPHERD.

Annat, Rait, Perthshire.

From Mr R. S. Allen

April 2.

new rulers.

Yours faithfully,

RICHARD ALLEN,

From Mr Brian Lynch

Yours etc., BRIAN LYNCH,

3 Marlborough Road, Brentwood, Essex.

land?

suit of sentimental tartan egoism.

raise taxes uniquely in Scotland for

no sound reason.

There is no in-between, as Labour

has been clouded.

April 7.

mutual prosperity to the North.

I was looking forward to change in

those things that matter. The choice

From Mr A. C. B. Tidmarsh

Sir. As I understand it the propo-

Unfortunately, in spite of the change to a single market at the end of the year, no one has yet been able to devise a system in which output tax paid in one country, say England, can be returned to an importer as input tax in another country, in

Do Scots who seek independence,

Yours faithfully, TONY TIDMARSH,

Sir. The prospect of devolution must pose a dilemma for peers of Scot-land. If history is any guide, they will lose their seats in the House of Lords.

No doubt the Scottish lords will argue that they are peers of the United Kingdom, but so to this day are peers of Ireland. In fact the Scots will have a much weaker claim to continuing to sit in the Upper House; unlike Irish peerages, most Scottish titles were not even created by an

Yours faithfully, KILMAINE, Shelfield, Alcester, Warwickshire. April 5.

From Canon Carl Garner

constitutional issues.

Will the rise of nationalism in to have pushed for greater inte-gration of infrastructure between

grants from government bodies. involving replacement of a wall of the chapel which was bearing down omingusty on the undercroft, I cannot but be bewildered at the

difference of some £7,425,000. Of course there are factors unknown to me, but I must question the quantum when you compare myself as an owner of fairly modest means to an authority such as the National

I have nothing but praise for the successful work of the National Trust of which my family are members: in fact my architect, Mr J. S. Miller of Harrogate, was recommended to me originally by friends connected with the National Trust.

Yours faithfully. GRANTLEY, Markenfield Hall, Ripon, North Yorkshire.

KGB and the Church

Sir. Clifford Longley ("Uncovering the secrets of the KGB prelates", members or its friends".

Ask Alexander Solzhenitsyn, who was denounced by his own bishop when the KGB was gunning for him. Ask Father Gleb Yakunin, now an elected deputy of the Russian par-liament, whose betrayal by his own church leadership when he exposed religious persecution in 1965 facilitated the campaign against him. resulting in a ten-year sentence.

Alexi I denounced me to the Arch-

From Canon Michael Bourdeaux

April 4) asserts that KGB control of the Russian Orthodox Church never led to the betrayal of "its beliefs, its

Or you could ask me. Patriarch

sey) in 1966, and in 1992 the KGB still tries to dictate an agenda from an unquiet grave, with the Moscow Patriarchate designating those in the churches of the West with whom it will have dealings and blacklisting Beliefs? No, the KGB did not alter

bishop of Canterbury (Michael Ram-

the Nicene Creed, but it did use curriculum lectures to attempt to indoctrinate theological students. after having prevented the most zealous from joining a seminary in the first place. Yours sincerely,

Jews opposes it, whether as an overt

technique or hidden agenda. It is the

opposite of dialogue and reconcili-

ation, for which our organisation

was founded by Archbishop William

Temple and other distinguished

religious leaders in the darkest days

Postscript: a personal reflection regarding the Bishop of Oxford's

excellent article (March 31), "Can a

Christian vote Tory?" I hope so. I try

MICHAEL LATHAM, Director,

1 Dennington Park Road, NW6.

Council of Christians and Jews,

MICHAEL BOURDEAUX (Director). Keston Research 33a Canal Street, Oxford. April b.

of the second world war.

to be. And I do.

Yours faithfully.

Jewish identity From the Director of the Council of

Christians and Jews Sir, Having spent a good deal of

Sir. The letter from Rabbi Dr Julian Jacobs (March 31) exemplifies the pain felt by Jewish people at overt attempts to claim that Jewish people can be converted to Christianity and still remain Jews.

It is difficult for Christians - and I write as an Anglican lay reader - to comprehend how threatened Jewish people feel by targeted proselytism. It seeks to marginalise their religion and to assimilate their culture. If successful, it would ultimately destrov Judaism.

The Council of Christians and

Yours sincerely, CARL GARNER, Holywell Close, 43 Holywell Hill.

Sir, I was distressed by the letter from the Foreign Office minister, Mr Mark Lennox-Boyd (March 28). attacking Mr Stephen Jakobi who had written to you (March 26) in his capacity as spokesman for Fair Trials Abroad.

Justice abroad not

seen to be done

From Mr E. W. Smith

Mr Jakobi is probably best known to the public as being the solicitor to my daughter, Karyn Smith, arrested with Patricia Cahill on a drugs charge in Bangkok, 21 months ago. Karyn is at present in prison in Thailand, and though the European Parliament has expressed deep concern" that she was "wrongly convicted", it took a public outery to get her any government support (reports, May 22, September 12, October 25, November 18 and 21.

1991). Mr Lennox-Boyd argues that no representation can be made until the possibility of appeals has been exhausted and that this does not apply to any of the cases in which Mr Jakobi had "so far shown an interest". My daughter abandoned her appeal nearly a year ago. This single fact makes Mr Jakobi's point.

Yours faithfully, E. W. SMITH. 46 Foredrove Lane, Damson Wood, Solihull, West Midlands. March 28.

From Mrs Frances M. Benn

Sir. On March 4, 1991, my son Christopher, an airline pilot, was arrested on a charge of rape, having been tricked off his British aircraft in Toulouse. He was told that there was an urgent telephone call for him: when he stepped off the plane, in order to answer it, he was arrested, handcuffed and taken off to Martinique under the most humiliating

circumstances. Christopher was put in jail for five weeks with a condemned murderer. No help was forthcoming for legal aid. Although not a wealthy woman myself, I was forced to find £35,000 in French francs to get him released on bail. The charge made against him has since been dropped, and he is now being held on a charge of

force and surprise". My son had nothing but praise for the honorary consul in Martinique in the period immediately following his arrest; nor do I believe (as Mr Lennox-Boyd suggests is Mr Jakobi's belief) that the government should intervene "at whim" in other countries' legal procedures. However, I do believe that members of the EC should conform to international pro-

cedures with regard to extradition. ish territory, by trickery. He is no fugitive from justice — he would have gone willingly to Martinique to clear his name — and his extradition from Britain could and should have been effected by the use of established

procedures. Why did the Foreign Office allow those procedures to go by default? Why did it not challenge the lawfulness of his arrest?

Yours faithfully, FRANCES BENN, Meadswood, Loddon Drive. Wargrave, Reading, Berkshire. March 30.

Twilight zone

From Mr Raymond O'Malley

Sir, TV "semi-biographies" have opened up depths of vulgarity that F. R. Leavis could never have imagined. Sunday's TV show (review, March 28) depicted Mrs Leavis as embittered. She had good reason to be: when she married Leavis her family rejected her; some years later a single bomb of Hitler's killed the family. Mrs Leavis herself developed a fatal illness against which she fought bravely. Who could have escaped some bitterness in such circumstances?

I knew the family intimately from 1929 until the end and see the broadcast as an utter travesty of their relationship. Leavis was incomparably the greatest teacher who ever came my way.

Yours truly, RAYMOND O'MALLEY. 23 Nightingale Avenue, Cambridge. March 30.

From Mr Graham Chainey

Sir, The title of the BBC film about F. R. Leavis and "Q". The Last Romantics invites the question just how many last romantics there have

According to the title of his authorised biography (1948) Sir John Martin-Harvey was The Last Romantic. So. according to their own biographers, were Max Eastman (1978) and Queen Marie of Romania (1985). A television film in 1985 was called Vladimir Horowitz: The Last Romantic, while The Last Romantics is the title of a novel by Caroline Seebohm set in 1960s Oxford; not to mention W. B. Yeats. And you illustrated (Life & Times, March 31) the Barbican Gallery's 1989 exhibition, "The Last Ro-

Sceptically yours, GRAHAM CHAINEY, 17 Marine Parade, Brighton, East Sussex.

Letters to the editor should carry a

daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number -(071) 782 5046.



RK

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE April 7: The Prince Edward today isited Dorset and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Dorset (the Lord Digby).
His Royal Highness visited the
Pon of Poole and was entertained at luncheon on the my Barfleur. subsequently visited Sowester Limited, Poole, and opened their European distribution centre and headquarters.

The Prince Edward then visited various youth activities at the Beacon Centre, Mitchell Road, Canford Heath and the Muscliff Youth Centre, Bournemouth, Mrs Richard Warburton was in

KENSINGTON PALACE April 7: The Prince of Wales, President, The Prince's Trust, gave a lunch for supporters of the Trust.

The Princess of Wales attended a concert by "Black Voices" at the Church of St Stephen, Walbrook, London EC4.

This evening Her Royal High-ness, President, Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, attended the film premiere of "Hook" at the Odeon Theatre, Leicester Square, London W1.

Mrs Max Pike and Wing Commander David Barton, RAF, were

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, today visited Staffordshire and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Staffordshire (Sir Arthur

Her Royal Highness this morn-ing opened St Dominic's Court, the Coventry Churches Housing

British Journal of

Hospital Medicine The annual Student Elective Award was presented to Mr Samir Chhaya of Guy's Hospital Medical School, by Dr Trevor Bayley, Postgraduate Dean, University of Liverpool at a supper held at the Cafe Royal, London. Dr Jack Tinker, the Editor-in-Chief of the British Journal of Hospital Medicine, presided. Members of the Editorial Board and the Publishers

Dinner

Lord Mayor of Westminster The Lord Mayor of Westminster and Sir Leslie Porter were hosts at the annual City of Westmins reception and dinner held last night at the Banqueting House, tehall. Among those present

bers of the Diplomatic Corps, bers of the Fulace of Westminster, is of Greater London boroughs representatives of the church, the lary, HM Forces, emergency ser-the aris, commerce, voluntary haritable organisations and other

Association's sheltered housing scheme in Stoke-on-Trent.

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, was later entertained at luncheon by the President of the British Ceramic Manufacturers' Federation at Federation House, Stoke-on-

Her Royal Highness this after-noon visited Portmeirion Poneries Limited at London Road, Stoke-on-Trent.

Mrs Jane Stevens and Major the Lord Napier and Entrick were in attendance.

The Duke of Gloucester this afternoon presented the English Tourist Board Car Parks Award at a luncheon given by the English Tourist Board at the Inter-Continental Hotel, Hyde Park Corner, London W1. Major Nicholas Barne was in

The Duchess of Gloucester this morning opened the Classroom Block and Community House at Birchfield Primary School, Trinity Road. Birmingham, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for West Midlands (the Earl of Aylesford).

This afternoon Her Royal Highness visited South Yorkshire and was received by Her Maj-esty's Lord Lieutenant for South Yorkshire (Lieutenant Colonel

roteshire (Lieutenant Colonel Hugh Neill).

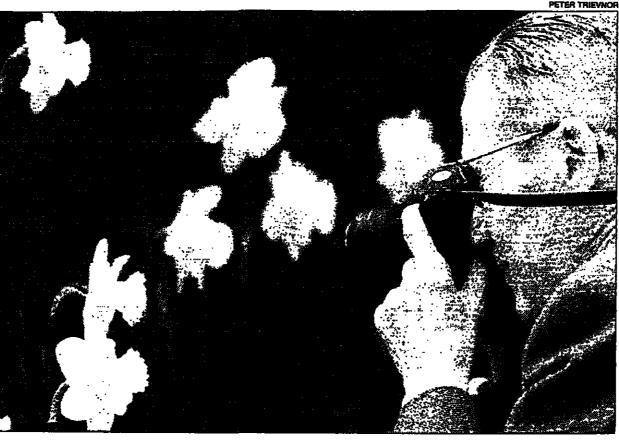
The Duchess of Gloucester opened the University School of Clinical Dentistry, Sheffield, and later visited the Paediatric Unit of the Doncaster Royal Infirmary and Montague Hospital, Mrs Euan McCorquodale was

The Chaplains' Conference

The 1992 Chaplains' Conference was held at University College, Oxford, on March 30 - April 1. The main speakers were the Bishop of Sherborne, Professor Keith Ward, Mr Martin Rogers, Professor A.H. Halsey, The Bar-oness Cox, Dr Lionel Dakers and Canon Stephen Platten. Following the appointment of the Rev Peter Hullah to be Headmaster of Chetham's School of Music, the Rev Andrew Clitherow, Chaplain of Rossall School, was appointed

Nuffield Council on Bioethics

The following have been ap-pointed members of the Nuffield Council on Bioethics working party on genetic screening: Dame June Lloyd (chairm Elizabeth Anionwu, Professo Bwing, Mrs Lesley Greene, il Peter Harper, Dr Anne McLai Caroline Milles and Dr Be Modell



Passing clouds: a member of the RHS captures the beauty of a display of daffodils at the Spring Show

RHS daffodils win a host of golds

By Alan Toogood, horticulture correspondent

pollination of the plants is

fascinating: for instance, Frit-

illaria recurva from Califor-

nia, with orange and yellow

chequered flowers, is pollinat-

ed by humming birds. Also

on display is the pale yellow F. pallidiflora, used in medi-

cine in China, and the very unusual F. ferganensis from Central Asia, with pink and

green flowers, which scram-

bles through shrubs by means

Creating much interest is

an exhibit of plants collected

from woodland mountain

habitats in Western Sichuan,

China, by James Compton, of

Salisbury, Wiltshire, John D'Arcy, of Devizes, Wiltshire, and Martyn Rix, of Ashford,

Kent. The star plant is Conyd-

alis flexuosa in its different

forms, first collected by the

French missionary and natu-

ralist Père Armand David in

the mid 1860s. This hardy

corydalis has clusters of beau-

tiful sky-blue spurred flowers,

produced from April to Octo-

of tendrils.

DAFFODILS feature strongly at the Royal Horticultural Society's spring show even though two of the regular Irish daffodil exhibitors are absent. There is an informative display entitled All About Daffodils, staged by the RHS narcissus and tulip committee, which embraces species, hybrids, classification and propagation, all illustrated with cut blooms. The exhibit has been awarded a gold medal.

Ireland is represented, though, by Brian Duncan, of Omagh, Co Tyrone, who has staged a large gold medal display of novelty and exhibi-tion daffodils, including pink large-cupped and double flowered cultivars. Clive Postles Daffodils, of Droitwich, Hereford and Worcester, and J Walkers Bulbs, of Weston Hills, Lincolnshire, have also been awarded gold medals for daifodils. Broadleigh Gardens, of Bishops Hull, Somerset, are featuring a collection of dwarf and miniature daffodils bred by Alec Gray.

There are two refreshingly different exhibits at this show, one a collection of fritillarias staged by the RHS Lily Group and Wisley Garden, Surrey, which has been

awarded a gold medal. It ber if the weather is not too hot. The plant has attractive includes representatives of ferny foliage, in one of the forms flushed with purple. The centrepiece of the exhibit these bulbous plants with bell-shaped flowers from all over the world, including China, the Mediterranean counis a good dark blue form of tries, California and Britain. Iris confusa named 'Martyn many of them having been collected by Martyn Rix. The

Camellias are also a feature of this show. Burncoose and South Down Nurseries, of Redruth, Cornwall, has been awarded a gold medal for a fine display.

James Trehane, of

Hampreston, Dorset, has staged a large bank of them. including the new hybrid 'Contribution' (a seedling from 'Donation') bred in the United States. It is dwarf and compact, ideal for the small garden and containers, its expected ultimate height and spread being 3-4ft. The semidouble flowers, freely produced from March to the end of May, are coral pink.

Alpines are also being fea-tured at this show and the beautifully staged display from Potterton and Martin, of Nettleton, Lincolnshire, has deservedly won a gold medal. The RHS daffodil show is

also being held and in the competitive classes F C Postles, of Droitwich, Herethe Engleheart challenge cup for 12 cultivars bred and raised by the exhibitor. One of his blooms, an all white large cup, was judged best bloom in the show. B S Duncan, of Omagh, Co Tyrone, has won the Guy Wilson memorial vase for six white cultivars.

Frost the weekend before the show ruined the blooms of many camellias, and this resulted in the spray division of the RHS main camellia show being poorly supported. However, many exhibitors entered the division for blooms and Mrs C Petherick, of St Austell, Cornwall, has won the Leonardslee bowl for 12 blooms The Alpine Garden Society

is holding its competition at this show. The Farrer memorial medal for the best plant in the show has been won by E N Fuller, of Wadhurst, with a specimen of Dionysia revoluta, a cushion-forming alpine competely covered with bright yellow starry

The show, in the Old Horti-cultural Hall, Vincent Square, and the New Horticultural Hall, Greycoat Street, Westminster, central London, is open today from

Forthcoming marriages

Major C.H.B. Halford and Mrs C.A. Vines

The engagement is announced between Major Humphrey Halford, 17th/21st Lancers, son of Mrs Elizabeth Halford, of Orchard Manor, and Mr. M.C.S. Halford, of Nether Stowey, and Charlotte, daughter of the late Major J.B. Jenkins and of Mrs Burton Jenkins, of Monkscombe.

Mr J.E.P. Hawker and Miss A.E. Ward

The engagement is announced between James, eldest son of Mr and Mrs J.W. Hawker, o Carshalton Beeches, Surrey. and Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs E.R. Ward, of Tempellow. Dr J. Holbrook

and Miss R.H. Macsaghter The engagement is announced etween Jonathan, eldest son of Mrs A. Holbrook, of Newcastleupon-Tyne, and Ruth, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs A.M. Macnaghten, of Donaghadee. County Down, Northern Ireland.

Mr M.F. Lykiardopulo and Miss A.E. Gonlandris The engagement is announced between Michael, younger son of Mr F.P. Lykiardopulo, of Athens.

The Princess Royal, as Master of

the Loriners' Company, will at-tend committee meetings at Pewterers' Hall at 9.30; as Presi-dent of the British Knitting and

Clothing Export Council, will attend the BKCEC/DTI Spanish

Conference Centre at the City Conference Centre, EC3, at 2.00:

and, as President of the Royal

Yachting Association, will attend a meeting of the council at the Royal Thames Yacht Club at

The Duke of Kent, as Vice-Chairman of the British Overseas

Trade Board, will visit Genzyme Biochemicals, Maidstone, at

11.05; Automotive Precision Components, Tonbridge, at 1.30;

and Universal Filling Machine,

The Duchess of Kent, as Pairon of the Network Housing Associ-ation, will open the Salmon Street Scheme in Wembley at 11.00.

Mr Paul Timms, head verger of

Coventry cathedral, to be head

verger of Southwark cathedral, in

succession to Mr Clive McClester, who becomes head

verger of Winchester cathedral in

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Sir Eric Cheadle, CBE, DL, will be held at St Bride's, Fleet Street, on Friday.

Sir Eric Cheadle

May 1, at noon.

Appointments

Ashford, at 3.20.

Today's royal

engagements

Greece, and Mrs S. Lykiardopulo,

of London, WS, and Alexandra. youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs A.N. Goulandris, of Gazad. Switzerland. Mr D.R. Moore and Miss N.J. Robinson

The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs Douglas Moore, of Wigston. Leicestershire, and Nicola, elder daughter of Mr Christopher Robinson, of Bures, Suffolk, and Mrs Hugh Tempest-Radford, of Pettaugh. Suffolk.

and Miss P.J. King

Mr T.R. Ward

and Miss F.T. Barras

The engagement is announced between Stephen, son of Mr and Mrs H.A. Rose, of Lighthorne, Warwickshire, and Philippa Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs E.A. King, of Pangbourne, Berkshire

The engagement is announced

between Timothy, second son of Dr and Mrs Haydn Ward, of Ashtead, Surrey, and Fiona, eldest daughter of Mr L.W.B.

Barras, of Gouvieux. France, and Mrs. G.M. Barras, of Ascot. Berkshire.

Receptions

Mr and Mrs Wallis Hunt Mr and Mrs Wallis Hunt. of Longbridge Deverill, Wiltshire, gave a reception at Stationers' Hall, London, EC4, on April 2, to celebrate the marriage in New York last year of their third son Timothy John to Tama, daughter of Dr Julian Janowitz, of seminar at DTI Kingsgate House at 11.25; as President of Patrons, Crime Concern, will attend the Family School and Community Shutesbury, Massachusetts and Professor Phyllis Janowitz, of Ith-aca, New York

Mr Miles Kington was the principal guest and speaker at a reception given by the Prospect Burma Educational Trust last night at Westminster School. Viscount Slim, patron, and Mr Alan Hall, chairman, received the

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: John Loudon, horticulturist. Cambuslang, Strath-clyde, 1783; Sir Adrian Boult. conductor, Chester. 1889; Mary Pickford, silent film star -"America's sweetheart". Toronto. DEATHS: El Greco. painter.

Toledo, 1614: Karl von Humboldt, philosopher and educator.
Tegel, Germany, 1835; Eric Karlfeldt, poet, Nobel laureate (posthumous) 1931, Stockholm. 1931: Vaslav Nijinsky, ballet dancer and choreographer, London, 1950: Pablo Picasso, painter, Mougins, France, 1973; Omar Nelson Bradley, US army general, 1981.

Abdication of King Zog of Alba-nia, 1939. The League of Nations held its final meeting, 1946.

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BARTLETT - On April 6th. at The Royal Berkshire Charloite U.olice, aged 93. after a brave fight 1992, after a brave fight

Elizabeth, a little sister for Rebecta.

BLACK - On March 14th 1992 to Amanda (née Hewill) and Dominic, a daughter. Emily Katherine Holly CARTWRIGHT - On April 2nd 1992. at the City Hospital. Notingham. to Deborah unce Savage; and Roger, a daughter, Rosse Joy. COLE - On Monday April efficat The Alexandra Hospital, to Marta (nee Cooke) and Paul, a daughter, Chartolle Marte. Marie. ESKENAZI - On April 1st. to Linden. IOBSON - On March 29th, Io

HORSON - On March 29th, to Jamanda nièe Haddocki and Dominic.

daughter. Clementine, a sister for ivo. HURST - On March 31st 1992, at Rochford Hospital. lo Jane and David. a daughter. Amy Louise. PROUDLOCK - On April 4th. to Jane and Gary. a son. Henry George, a brother for Max Edward SHIELOS - On April 5th, to Nickt and Tom. a son.

SHIELDS - On April 5th, to Nick and Tom, a son, STANLEY On March 29th to Rosa, wife of Philip Stanley, a son, Benjamin Peter SWIFT - On Sunday March 29th, at Wyconite General Hospital, to Rachel mee Devey's and Steven, their dist child, a beautifut daughter, Lydia Rose WALLACE - On April 4th 1992, to Kilty, wife of Benjamin, a son, Alexander tan Agge.

Benjamin.

Ian Agnes.

WILSON - On Sunday April

5th, at Lekester General
Hospital. to Dawn thee
Keener and Richard. a
daughter. Relecta Alice.
Herr first child.

WOLSTENHOLME - On April

5th 1992. to Caroline and 5th 1992. To Caroline and Andrew, a son. Arthur Charles Lewis, a brother for Unite.
VRIGHT - On April 7th, lo
Sophic nee Tale) and
Thomas, in Hong Kong, a
daughter. Kalharlue

DEATHS CONGREVE - On April 2nd

Sitp End. Luton. Percy Douglas aged 93 years. Much loved and loving father of Andrew and grandfather of Lucy and Kale. Funeral Service at \$1 Mary's Church, Luton. on Tuesday April 14th at 3 pm. Family flowers only, please. Donations, if desired, to Harpenden Mencap Society c/o Neville Funeral Service. Neville House. Marsh Road, Leagrave, Luton. DAVIES - On April 6th 1992.

DAVIES - On April 6th 1992. pearefully. Other Rosemany Neil, daughter of the fale Revenued and Mrs. Neil Reserved and Mrs. Nett.
Smith, sister of Rachel and
Christopher Funeral al.
2 30pm on Monday April
13th al Christ The Saviour
Church, Ealing Broadway,
w.5 Family flowers only.
DIMISMRY - On April oth,
Mary, Pauling Merc. Mary Pauline Merts. lieloced sister of Cyril, Lydia, the Jale Theo, much loced sister in Jan To Jean, Joan and Martin. Much loved auni Funeral al St John's Church Farnham Common at 10.45am on Monday April 13th. Hiterment at Garden of Remembrance. Amerikam Family flowers only. Dona-tions to Mid-Country Autistic Society. Nat West Bank, Farnham Common. Bucks,

law, grandfather and friend. Funeral Service at Leatherhead Crematorium, 12 noon Monday April 13th 1992.

GILES - On April 2nd 1992.

GILES - On April 2nd 1992, suddenly, Professor Geoffrey Reginald Giles, beloved husband of Parm, dear father of Maihew, Ben and Simon and loved son of Phyllis, Private family funeral. If desired, donalions scheques made payable to Liver Transplant Units may be sent to the Department of Surgery. St James' University Hospital, Leeds LS9 TFF, A Memorial Service is to be held at St Edmund's Church. Rouuthay, Leeds, on Saturday May 9th at 12 noon.

day May 9th at 12 noon.

GLAISTER - On April 5th, peacefully at the BUPA Hospital. Bushey, aged 90 Edwin, adored husband of the late Kay, dearly loved father of Ray and David, much inved grandfather of Allson, Katrina, Hilary, Pippa, Nin, Carol and Serena, great-grandfather of Eoin, Calum, Pakirck, Richard, Emily, Timothy and Hannah Funetal Service at Golders Green Crematorium on Monday April 13th at 100n, No Rovers pirese Donallons if desired to world Widdleffund (10 Levertons, Finchley Road, NW11

Si Albans Cliy Horpital.
Hertforrishire.
Sydney. BSc.. C Eng..
F.I.Sirurt.E.. F.I C E..
M.Consl E. F.F.B.. aged 77 years A respected partner of Oscar Faber Partnership of over 40 years Filmeral took

1992, peacefully at his home.
Duncan Sluart, formerly of
the Malayan Service, aged
89. Beloved husband of the
late Janet, Loved and
treasured father, father in-

FINCH - On April 5th, after a short illness, Arthur, Leonard, beloved aud loving husband of Nanzy, father of Jon and Rojer and brother of Yera, Funeral on Monday April 13th al 3:30 pm at Worth Crawley, No flowers, donations in lieu to British Diabetic Assoc., 10 Queen Anne Sircet, Lendon Wil

over 40 years Funeral look place on April 6th with a service and committed at West Heris Crematorium, Garston, Herts, Donations, if desired, to The British Diabetics Association, 10 Queen Anne Sirect, London W1M OBD Empuries to E Seymour A Son. 26 Mariborough Road, St Albans, Heris, AL1 SNQ, lei: 40727) 53091

HARROWER - On April 6th 1992. James Siephen. beloved husband of Merrial and deer father of lan and Caroline Private funeral service. Donallons may be sent to Imperial Cancer Research Fund. PO Box 123. Lincoln's line Fields. London. WC2A 3PX.

HOLLAND - On April 7th 1992. S.W.C. Holland (Bill), peacefully at home in Cunthorpe, Norfolk, 2ged 71. Beloved husband of Jane and father of Ann. John and Mary. Family cremation. Memorial Service to be announced.

Sharile May he rest in peace
NATHAN - On April 6th.
Freda, widow of Barnett,
peacefully at home, hourned
by her sons Jerroid and
Clive, brother Jack, sisters
Mutte, Cecily, and Sheita,
grandchildren, family, and
friends.

MICOLOPOULOS - On April
4th. peacefulls al home,
Roselyne, dearly loved and
toxing wife of Telman and
mother of Celtine and
Kristine Private family
funeral will take place in
France. A Memorial Mass for
all friends will be held in
May al Westminsler
Cathedral
DADBY JOMES - On April 7th

Cathedral
PARRY JONES - On April 7th
1992. peacefully. Dorothy
aged 94 of South Kensington.
Much loved grandina of
Adam and Johanna Funeral
Service on Wednesday April
15th at 2 pm at Randalis
Park Crematorium.
Leatherhead Flowers or if
destred donations for 5t
Catherine's Hospice.
Crawley, may be sent to:
Sherlock and Sons, Trellis
House, Dorking, leiephone
(Dorking) 882266

DEATHS PILGRIM - On April 5th 1992 PILGRIM - On April 5th 1992, at home in Reading, Roy Pligrim O.B.E., aged 84, beloved father and grand-father. Cremation at Reading Crematorium on Monday April 13th at 2 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to British Heart Foundation c/o A.B. Walker & Son Lid., 36 Eldon Road. Reading.

ROSSITER - On April 6th. ROSSITER - On April 6th, peacefully at home after a long Illness courageously borne. Captain Michael, beloved husband of Norma, father of Judith and Angela, grandpa of Stuart. Daniel, Natalie and Laura, son of Christobel, brother of John. Richard. Susan and families. Funeral Service on Friday April 10th, Canford Crematorium, Bristol al Spin. Family Howers only. but donalizes if desired to The B.R.I. Scanner Appeal or St. Peter's Hospice may be given c/o F.H. Halliday & Son Funeral Directors. 115 High Street, Portlishead. Bristol.

announced.

KING - On Monday April 6th.
Ellison O.B.E. at Delaware
Home London. aged 78. after
a life of love and generosily
and useful war and public
service. Oreally mourned.
Cremalion Friday April 10th
3.30 pm Marylebone
Cremalorium, East End
Road, East Finchley roso. Last Finchley
LEWIS - On April 6th, at his
home. Normandy Park.
Guiddord. Professor
Emeritus Hywel D. Lewis
Crentation at Bangor,
Gwynedd, Saturday April
11th at 11 am.

Gwynedd. Salurdas' April
11th at 11 am.
LISTER-WILSON - On
Sunday April 5th, peacefully
in hospital, Dr. Henry ListerWilson, of Varleg, near
Pontypool. Gwent. Devoled
and beloved husband of
Diane for nearly 50 years.
Loved by many
MAUDE-ROXBY - On April
3rd 1992, peacefully at
Crewkerne Hospital.
Somersel. Joyce Maud unde
McConnell) aged 92 years.
Beloved mother of Christopher. Roderick, Audrey.
David and Lorna. Grannie to
eleven "Grannie the Creal"
to twelve. Cremation private.
Thanksgit ing Service at St
Leonard's Church.
Misterion. Somerset. on
Monday April 27th at 230
pm. No mourning. Donations
if desired to the Royal British
Legion Womens Section (/o
Stoodley & Son, The Park,
The George Shopping CenIre. Crewkerne, Somersel.
tel: 10460 173229
McGURK - On December

McGURK - On December 20th 1991. Roty Niall Brendan, late of the 10th P.M.O. Gurkha Riffes in Malla. Beloved husband of Siephanie and father of Madelaine Finnian and Sharile May he red in peace

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ANNOUNCE **LEGAL NOTICE**

ANDORSEN BECKER

& COMPANY LUMITED

(In member's liquidation)

Company Number 153812

NOTICE TO THE CREDITIES

OF THE COMPANY LIMITED

OF THE MARKET 1992 the company was placed in member's to undary liquidation and Alan Rae Dalziel Jamieson of Price Waterhouse, 88 Albany Street, Edipburgh, EHI 3QR was appointed figuidator by the shareholders

The liquidator ghes notice pursuant to rule 4, 182A of the insolvent of the company in the shareholders of the company in the shareholders of the company to the liquidator, at the above address by 22 May 1992 which is the lead day for proving claims. The liquidator sho ghes potice that he will then make a final distribution to recitions and that a reditor who does not make a claim by the date the distribution.

The company is able to asy all its known creditors in full.

Alan Rae Cabriel Jamieson Laguadator

BARKER & JONES LIMITED

(In members liquidation)

Company Numiner 90420

NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS

OF BARKER & JONES LIMITED

On 27 Morch 1992 the rompany was asserd in members voluniary liquidation and Alan Rac
was sisted in members voluniary liquidation and Alan Rac
was liquidation and Alan Rac
was liquidation and Alan Rac
was appointed biguidation by the
sharrholders.

The liquidation gives notice pursanni to take 4, 1824 of the lesol
very Rules 1980 that the
creditors of the company must
send defails. In writing, of any
send defails, in writing, of any
send defails, in writing, of any
liquidator, at the above address
by 22 May 1992 which is the last
day for proving claims. The liquidation also gives notice that he will
then make a final distribution to
creditors and their a treditor who
does not make a risin by the date
mentioned will not a treditor who
does not make a risin by the date
mentioned will not be included in
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Richard of the state of the state of the

Liquidator receiling in full

Alan Rac-Daizies Jamie-on

Liquidator BARKER & JONES LIMITED Sired. Portishead. Bristol.

ROSS - On March 29th peacefully al Steppingley Hospital.

Felicity (nee Douglas, formerty of Edithburgh, belot ed
wife of the late John. Funeral
has already taken place

TOTHILL - On April 6th.
poacefully in his steep. Li Col
Francis Christison Darby
(Christ. aged 90. Belot et
husband of the late Frances,
much loved by daughters
susan and Betsann and sonin-law Matthew, and by
granddaughters Betinda and
Miranda and great-grandson
James. Funeral Service at
Midhurst Methodist Church
on Friday. April 10th at
10.30am Family flowers
only, donations, if desired, to
Macmillan Nurses (/o L.F.
Lintott & Son. North Street,
Midhurst, Wels Sussex.

WELLS On April 5th.

ILINOIT & Son. North Street, Midhurst. West Sixsox.

WELLS - On April Sh. Raymond Jack Junior, at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington Funeral Requiem at St Mary Modelaten's Church, Woodchester Square, Paddington, on Thursday April 9th at 11 am. followed by cremation Family flowers only, donations to St. Mary Hospital to be sent to The Reverend Nicholas Roberts. 21 Hartland Road. London NW6 6BG.

Wilson - On Sunday April 6th 1992 after a short illness. Ralph Haddon, of Stapleford, Cambridge Crematorium, Friday April (Oha 19, 45am. Frings) Roberts. 4 Harshell Court. Hartington Grove. Cambridge CRI 4 Warner Funeral Service, 4 Harshell Court. Hartington Grove. Cambridge CRI 4 Warner Funeral Service, 4 Harshell Court. Hartington Grove. Cambridge CRI 4 Warner Funeral Service, 4 Harshell Court. Hartington Grove. Cambridge CRI 4 Warner Funeral Service, 4 Harshell Court. Hartington Grove. Cambridge CRI 10 Brian Warner Funeral Service, 10 Brian Warner Funeral Service of the Company was able to pay all then make a final distribution to receive the stable of the brian by the deletion of the stable of the brian by the deletion of the stable of the brian by the deletion of the brian by the de

WINKLEY - On April 3rd, Eunier Kate, aped 74 years, after a short illness in Norwich. Funeral al St Peter's, Sheringham, Thurs-day April 9th at 2.15 pm. CROSSION
WINDOWS LIMITED
THE INSQLENCY ACT 1996
NOTICE IS HEREBY CAT ENGNOTICE IS HEREBY CAT ENGNOTICE IS HEREBY CAT ENGINFO THE INFO THE INF ZAMMIT TABORA On March 31sl peacefully al home in Malta. Elizabeth (Belly), wife of the late Anthony Z Tabona. much loved inother of Elaine and Batty. and granding of

Barly and grandmother of Shara, Philip, Ben and Mark

MEMORIAL SERVICES

MEMORIAL SERVICES

GREENSTOCK - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of John Wilfrid Creensfock, who died on February 6th 1992. will be held in Harrow School Chapei on Tuesday April 28th at 2.30 pm. All former pupils, colleagues and friends are warmls invited to attend

HAWICER HOMES
(HOLDINGS) LIMITED
(In members liquidation)
(In members liquidation)
(In members liquidation)
(Company Number 930180
NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS
OF HAWICER HOMES
IHOLDINGS) LIMITED
ON 27 March 1992 the company was placed in member's voluntary liquidation and Alan Rae
Dolziel Jamieson of Prico
unitary liquidation and Alan Rae
Dolziel Jamieson of Prico
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Dolziel Jamieson of Prico
unitary liquidation and Alan Rae
Dolziel Jamieson of Prico
unitary liquidation fly Street,
Edinburgh. Evil SQR was
appointed. The Liquidation of the liquidation of the company lothe
liquidation at the above address
by 22 May 1992 which is the lest
day for proving claims. The liquidation at the above address
by 22 May 1992 which is the lest
day for proving claims. The liquidation at the distribution to
liquid the liquidation of the liquidation of the distribution
The company is able to pay alt
its known creditors in full.
Alan Rae Dalziel Jamieson
Liquidation

HAWKER HOMES LIMITED

HAWKER HOMES LIMITED III members liquidation)
In members liquidation)
Company Number 338-399
NOTICE TO THE CREDITIONS
OF HAWKER HOMES LIMITED
ON 27 March 1992 the comof the company liquidation of price of the company liquidation of price of the company liquidation of price of the company liquidation of the company liquidation of the charcheders.
The liquidator gives notice pursuant to rate 4 182A of the insolvence Roles 1986 that the charcheders.
The liquidator gives notice pursuant to rate 4 182A of the insolvency Roles 1986 that the charcheders.
The liquidator gives notice pursuant to rate 4 182A of the insolvency Roles 1986 that the insolvency Roles 1986 that the charcheders with the company to be liquidated at a 182 1992 which is the last day for procuping claims The liquidation also give notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a credi HAWKER HOMES LIMITED

deep make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution. The company is able to pay all its known creditors in tull.

Alan Rae Dairiel Jamieson Lauddator

HEADLAND HEADLAND TOTAL THE PROPERTY LIMITED the members liquidation:

SHIPPING LIMITED the members and the paying the property limited by sold the above many was placed in members 1992 to send their names and the paying liquidation by the paying liquidation and the paying liquidation by the paying liquidation by the paying liquidation by the paying liquidation of the paying liquidation of the creditors of the company and if so pay all its kindy and paying liquidation to the paying liquidation of the paying liquidation will not be recited to the paying liquidation of the paying liquidation of the paying liquidation will not be recited to the paying liquidation will not

MASCRUW LINITED MASCHOW LIMITED
Required number, 1995586,
Nature of business, Import and
Export of street Bars and Agricultural Equipment, Trade classification 07 Date of appointment of
administrative receivers 2 April lion 07. Date of appointment of administrative receivers 2 Anii 1992. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers. Rank of Credit and Commerce Rank of Credit and Commerce Informational S.A. Joint Administrative Receivers: Peter Williams Crossive DuButsson and Rupert Chaham Mullim toffice holder no. 1369 and 72691 of 20 Old Bailey London EC4M 78H. Bail's London ECAM 78H.

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receiver YORKSHIRE CONTRACTING PLANTED Registered number: 1002612. Nature of business: Civil engit needs of appointment of administrative receivers: 2 April 1992. Nature of person appointing the administrative receivers: 2 April 1992. Nature of person appointing the administrative receivers. Longon Bank PK John American Commissional Physiology and 0059/28. Address. Prior Waterhouse 9 Bond Court Leeds L51 28N.

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IN THE MATTER OF TRINITY MANAGEMENT SERVICES LEMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLUTION. ACT OF THE INSOLUTION OF SECTION 98 of the knot energy Act 1986, will be held at Price Walerthoose, 9 · 14 Union Street. London SEI 182 on 16 April 1992 at 11.00 a.m. The purposes of the neeting are to receive a statement of strains and a report on the company from a director and if the creditors wish to do so, the company is the second of the section of the company from a director and if the creditors wish to do so, the company is the company from a director and if the creditors wish to do so, the company is the company form a director on the company is the creditor. From the company is alfairs as they may reasonably require.

Dated 7th April, 1992

By Order of the Board T. J. P. Bates. Company Screeners. By Order of the Board T.J.P. Sales. Company Secretary Notes.

Creditors withing to vote at this meeting must complete and todge the enclosed form of provy, unives they are included form of provy, unives they are included form of provy. In the companies authorising a representable to meeting in person or are companies authorising a representable to Brise the companies of the Com

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver FRAMPTONS NESEMES LIMITED RESEMES LIMITED RESEMES LIMITED RESEMES LIMITED RESEMES LIMITED FROM THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O

The Insolvency Act 1986
CARPET SCHEME LIMITED
IIIn Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that Termer John Roper F.I.P.A.
of 4 Charterhouse Square.
London ECIM 6EN was
appointed Liquidator of the seld
Company by the members and
creditors on 19th March 1992.
Dated this 6th April 1999
T.J. Roper, Liquidator.

Notice is hereby given purpasant to the Trushee Act 1990 -as amended, the Inheritance (Family Provision Act 1 1972 and the Family Provision Act 1 1972 and the Family Relationships Act 1975 that all creditors, beneficiaries and other persons has ting claims (CHARLES) take of 26 king Charles House, Wandon Road, S.W.6. London, England are required to send in writing to the Public Trushee at his Office. 25 Franklin Strock, Adeialde, South Australia. SOOD, full puritculars and proof of such cidents on or before the 5th day of June 1992 otherwise fixey will be eacheded from the distinction of the factor of the factor

Notice of appointment of Administrative Recent or CANARY FLOWER PARTY FLOWER PARTY

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver FRAMPTONS NURSERIES 10 VERSEAS LIMITED FRAMPTONS NURSERIES 10 VERSEAS LIMITED TO 10

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver FINEBREAK PROPENTIES I IMPTED Registered mumber. 2859000 Trading nature Finebreak Proper Implement of appointment of a proper important properties. Trading nature for administrative of appointment of administrative of person appointing the administrative freedom. The Samva Bank Limited. John Administrative Graham Sind and Mark Charles Graham Sind Sind Graham Sind G

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver OATEWHITE LIBATED Registered number: 1800167 Nature of business: Flower and seed growing. Trade classifica-tion 15 Hortzulture Date of amendationed of administrative tion 15 Hortzulture Date a appointment of administrative receivers i April 1992 Name o person appointing the administra-tive receivers. Barciara Bank Pet Joint Administrative Receives Peter Sheldon Padmore and Mi chael Bankl Gerche toffice Rolde-nos: 5600 and 23501. Address Price Waterhouse The Quay 3t Channel Water Ocean Villea Southampton 801 1NF

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver CL Printiss FLOWERS LIMITED Registered number: 172892 Nature of business Flower and seed growing. Trade classification: 18 Hortfurthuse. Date of appointment of administrative receivers. 1 April 1992. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers. Barciaus Bank Programment of administrative Receivers. Peter Sheldon Padmore and Michael David Certific officer holders. Price Westerbusse The Quay 30 Channel Way Ocean Village Southampton SQL 1335.

PAGE MOSS HOUSING
TRUST LIMITED
IN members liguidation?
Company Number 353496
NOTICE TO THE CREDITIONS
OF PACE MOSS HOUSING
ON 27 March 1992 the company number 353496
ON 27 March 1992 the company was blaced in members to untary liguidation and Alan Rac Dabzel Jamieson of Price Wilethouse, 56 Albany Sirvel, Edinburgh. EHI 3QR was appointed liguidator by the shareholders
The liguidator git es notice pursuant to rule 4.182A of the irredivency father, 1986 that the credity with the shareholders
The liguidator git es notice pursuant to rule 4.182A of the irredivency father, 1986 that the shareholders
The liguidator git es notice pursuant to rule 4.182A of the irredivency father, 1986 that the credity of the irredivency father applied the company to the included of the company of the irredivency for t

SECLRA UNITT1)
that members ingundations
Company Nounities (389-25)
NOTICE TO THE CHEDITURS
OF SECLRA LIMITED
On 27 March 1992 the coin
pany was placed in members to of
untary liquidation and Alan RaDaziel Jarusens of Pine
water house, 68 Allaim Street
Edinburgh, EHI MyR war,
appointed fluoridator by the
shareholders
The liquidation six notice put
usual to rule 4 1823 of the fired
very Rules 1986 that the
redditors of the company inter
send details, in writing, of any
calm against the company to the
liquidator, at the account of the
day for proving ritine. The liquidator and the account of the
control of the company to the
control of the company to the
liquidator, at the account of the
day for proving ritine. The liquidator and the account of the date
mentioned will not be included in
the destruction.
The company is able to pay all
lis known electrics in the
Alan Rae Dalziet Jamiescen
Liquidator

RELIANCE PLANT LIMITED IN members liquidation)

RELIANCE PLANT LIMITED IN members liquidation)

RELIANCE PLANT LIMITED SECOND IN MEMBERS S THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1 (sign N. J. KING I INITE I)
In accordance with Ritle 4 (og of the Insolvent, Ruite 1 (sign of the Insolvent Ruite 1 (sign of the Insolvent Insolvent

Liquidator

Vids usons International Limited Resister of number: 1479950 Nature of business Wilotesale Nature of business Wilotesale State of approximate Nature of State of Appl 1992 Name of person appointing the Nature of Person and Colonia and Commerce International 5 A Joint Administrative Receivers: Peter William Graviete Dubulson and Rupert Graham Maillen toffice Potates no. 1369 National Person National

mated 979850 A ITA ASONS LIMITED observed a number. 01959322 de Ann. 15 A John Laire of number. 01959322 de number. 01959322 de number. 1992 d

A MOND AND HAR SHIPE

Auswers from page 20 OUAB

(a) The ecipout or gudgeon, or any similar small fish, something immature or unfinished, origin obscure: "The children trailing home their jumpars filled with quabs and sticklebacks." FAGOTTO

(b) The Italian for a bassoon, also an organ stop like a bassoon, from the Italian word: "I suppose you are going to tell me that the Wedding Guest here beat his breast for he heard the loud fagotto." SLYPE (a) To cut away one side of a rod or cane, with a long (a) To cut away one side of a rou or case, with a roug slanting cut, so that it comes to a point, basket-making jargon: "The blackberry basket requires a bow of stoot rod fitted across the basket by inserting

its styped ends down into the siding." CHOREA (c) St Vitus's dance, a name given to the dancing madness, choreomania, which spread in the 15th century from Germany, from the Greek choreis dance: "Chorea is a sort of madness, wherein the person affected ran hither and thither dancing to the last gasp, if they [sie] were not forcibly hindered."

PERSONAL APPEARS IN LIFE & TIMES SECTION - PAGE 11

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OBITU

Jack Jesson A

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Bep van Klaveren BEP van Klavere boxer whose fast : style earned him name "The Du mill. has died

Dutch boxing con rated him as one the country had p more a demolition a boxer" was the ve Dutch national d Algemeen Dagble ing on his death. Van Klaveren w Dutch boxer ever Olympic gold med laced first in th veight division ar

iames in Amsier

so held the Euro upper anco-British Society

he annual meeting the Franco-British ald last night at the he Marquess of I resented the Enid N ary prize to Mr Fran andscape Garder Mme Marie-Louis mis du Jardin Sh aris. M Michel Lum iral Counsellor at the mbassy, was the gue han of the society, also Birthdays to Mr Hywei Bennett,

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eneral Sir Anthor locklev. 68: Mr J.P. acchorse trainer, 49 awson, former H udge. 84: Air Co Dame Alice Lowrey, f ron-in-chief, PMRA Mrs Mary Moore, for cipal, Sr Hilda's Coller 62: Mr W. Garth Morr Scour. 49: Mr Bric Po 64; Mr Ian Smith, for Minister of Rhodesia, sor Maurice Stacey, ch Sir Thomas Thomson, Greater Glasgow Hea 99; Miss Dorothy Tut

Luncheon

irst Day Cover Club Ar Cliff Morgan was the onour at a luncheon of e Europa 92 stamps, special stamp hono ritish Paralympics o

Pay Cover Club held ye ne RAF Club to mark f eith McDowall T

mong those present w r Colin Pawson, Mr Anti Alan Tuffin, Mr Alan In vid Evans, Ms Inga Yone id and Mr Darryll Mode

er riot

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head

OBITUARIES

JACK ADIE

Jack Jesson Adie, CMG, former colonial administrator in Zanzibar and Kenya, died on March 27 aged 78. He was born on May 1, 1913.

JACK Adie was a leading member of the colonial administration in Kenya in the period preceding indepen-dence in December 1963. ▲ During the 12 years that he spent there, which covered those of the Mau Mau emergency in the 1950s, he served in almost every government department, ending up as permanent secretary for

He first went there in 1951 and after filling several posts in the departments for education, labour and lands, left Africa in 1957 to become the chief secretary in Barbados. On the formation of the short-lived West Indian Federation in the following year, however, he returned to Kenya as permanent secretary for forest development, game and fisheries.

This was at a time when people throughout the West as well as in Africa were starting to appreciate the threat to wild life caused by



a indiscriminate killing and intensive farming. Adie found himself in the forefront of this movement, partly responsible for husbanding Kenya's rich animal resources, and in later years he came to regard this period as the most rewarding of his time there.

His Kenyan experience, however, represented only the second half of his career. Most of the first half, between 1938 and 1948, was spent in Zanzibar where his posts included those of private secretary to the Sultan and to the British resident. He was awarded the Brilliant Star of Zanzibar 4th class before he

military service during the war as a private in the Kenya regiment, then as a subaltern in the King's African Rifles. For part of the time he was on secondment in Ethiopia, where he served as personal assistant to the Emperor Haile Selassie's military/political adviser.

Although he spent most of his career in East Africa, Jack Adie came from the heart-land of England, near Birmingham, where his family owned a well-established and nationally reputed firm of silversmiths. The company eventually closed in the early 1950s, one of its last commissions being a commemorative salver for the Queen on her accession to the throne in

Adie went to Shrewsbury School, then Magdalen College. Oxford, where he took a degree in mods and English literature. He also won a tennis blue, played fives for the university and was awarded his tennis colours for Warwickshire. He entered the colonial service after taking a first class pass in the administrative civil service course.

After leaving Kenya in 1964 he was attached for five years to the Ministry of Overseas Development in London before finally tetiring in 1969. He and his wife then became "sixpenny settlers" in Malta, joining a large number of other returning British expatriates who were tempted to the island by an income tax concession of sixpence in the pound. Adie returned to Britain in the late 1970s shortly after the death of his wife.

While in Zanzibar he wrote a number of monographs, copies of which are now kept in the country's national museum. They included one on bull-fighting in East Africa, another on the Zanzibar national anthem and a third on the traditional, brass-decorated Arab doors. The last of these has been incorporated

in the Zanzibar official guide.

On resettling from Malta as a widower in Britain, how-ever, he embarked on a selfappointed task which almost created its own lifestyle. Always a lover of opera, he set himself the target of seeing 600 different operatic works. His quest took him on a musical odyssey throughout the world, to Australasia, as well as all over Europe and North America.-He made it though. He had seen 601 by

the time he died. Jack Adie is survived by two

SAM WALTON

Samuel Moore Walton, reputedly the richest man in America and certainly the most successful merchant of his time, died at the University of Arkan-sas Medical Sciences Hospital in Lit-tle Rock on April 5 aged 74. He was born on March 29, 1918, in King-fisher, Oklahoma.

THE secret of Sam Walton's success was simple: he had a talent for inspiring his employees to serve their customers. A gifted, homespun orator, he made per-sonal visits to dozens of his Wal-Mart stores each week, preaching the same message: help customers, cut costs, and share the profits. The technique built his empire from a single shop in Arkansas in 1962 to a current chain of 1,752 stores in 42 states, with annual sales of \$44 billion and profits last year of \$1.6

Walton was named by Forbes Magazine as the wealthiest person in America in 1985. He hated the distinction, saying: "All that hullabaloo about some-body's net worth is just stupid, and it's made my life a lot more polex and difficult." But America's worship of the dollar made it impossible for him to escape the awe and adulation, and his wealth was certainly remarkable. Divided among five family trusts, it is currently valued at \$23 billion in Wal-Mart stock alone, drawing annual dividends

Sam Walton grew up in Missouri, where he was an Eagle Scout, quarter-back of the state champion football team and president of the student council at his high school. He worked his way through the University of Missouri, delivering newspapers and waiting at table while earning a degree in economics, then served as an army captain during the second world war.

He opened his first shop in 1945 with the aid of a \$25,000 loan from his fatherin-law. It was part of a cut-price franchise chain. Walton worked with the chain until 1962, then branched out on his own in the belief that the way ahead lay in under-served rural areas. The idea proved phenomenally successful, largely pecause of Walton's personal touch and organising ability, and his willingness rare among American businessmen — to share his success with his employees. He established profit-sharing plans which nabled low-paid workers to retire with comfortable and even lucrative pensions. Wal-Mart went public in 1970, and

Kari Tunberg, Hollywood

screenwriter, died in

Putney on April 4 aged 83.

He was born in Spokane, Washington, on March 11, 1909.

KARL Tunberg was a true

Hollywood professional.

Whatever the star, whatever

the genre, Tunberg would de-

liver the appropriate goods: airy musical comedy for

Down Argentine Way (1940),

historical niceties for Beau

Brummell (1954), Mongol

tough talk for Taras Bulba (1962). He first worked in

Hollywood in 1937 and over

the space of three decades put

words into the mouths of Bet-

ty Grable, Alice Faye, Glenn Miller, Sonja Henie, Mario

Lanza, Robert Taylor,

Charlton Heston, Yul

MGM's prestigious re-

make of Ben Hur. released in

1959, gave him the chance to

work on something more sub-

stantial than light entertain-

ment, though the chariot race

has a stronger grip on the memory than the dialogue.

He wrote his script early in

the 1950s for the producer

Sam Zimbalist, carving a

clear-cut narrative from Lew

Wallace's blockbuster novel

Brynner and Doris Day.



the stock soared as Wall Street noted an unbroken pattern of high profits and fast growth. From 1981 to 1991 the shares produced an average annual return of 46.8 per cent, and an investment of \$3,000 in 1981 is today worth \$170,000. Last year the chain passed Sears Roebuck and Co to become America's largest retailer, serving its stores from 19 cavernous distribution centres,

trucks and a fleet of aircraft.
Until recent months, when he finally succumbed to a long-running battle with hairy-cell leukaemia and multiple myeloma. Walton continued to fly his own twin-engined aircraft from town to town, often visiting as many as six of his stores in a single day. He was far from being a remote tycoon. In 1983, after Wal-Mart's profits exceeded expectations, he

KARL TUNBERG

each with six miles of rack space, 2,000

kept a promise to his employees by putting on a grass skirt and dancing a hula in the middle of Wall Street.

Walton surrendered active control of the company to a team of hand-picked senior executives in 1988, though he remained chairman until his death. Financial experts do not expect his loss to affect the continued success of Wal-Mart, which Walton had planned to have sales exceeding \$100 billion by the turn of the century.

Last month Walton was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian honour. He was commended as "an American original, embodying the entrepreneurial spirit and epitomising the American dream."
He is survived by his wife, three sons

APPRECIATIONS

Prince George Galitzine

GEORGE Galitzine (obituary, April 2) was a romantic figure whose love of Russia almost transcended that of his adopted country. Increasingly he was to spend more and more time amongst the splendours of his family's past, a dispossessed nobleman playing the grand dragoman (under the watchful eye of the KGB) to successive waves of English tourists. His usual stance, as many who accompanied him will recall. was at the back of the party explaining to his devotees. that what the Intourist guide was saying was total rubbish! And then giving his own ver-sion laced with family anecdotes.

I first knew George when [was a schoolboy and he a White Russian refugee, his family having lost everything in the Revolution. Years later on a magical night in June I remember George sitting with my wife and me in the garden facing the Michael Palace in St Petersburg (or Leningrad then) talking deep into the night about the old days; how his family acquired this palace; the cause and meaning of the Revolution; and emergent "Perestroika". And then a visit to the forbidden Palace of Oranienbaum (supposed to be occupied by "research chemists"), which had been his mother's former

On an impulse George makes off towards the grandiose garden stairs ascending in sweeping flights to the front of the palace. A lone figure in this phantasmagoria of architecture. He rattles



open it and see what is going on inside. All he sees is a man in a white coat, confirming his worst fears. He then told us the story of his mother's former ladies' maid, who sud-denly turned up in England in 1935, the family having left in 1915 when his father, Prince Vladimir, joined his regiment at the Front. "Oh, yes. milady," she remarked, "I was at Oranienbaum not so long ago, and your dresses are still hanging up in the cupboard where you left

George's sad death will be another link gone with this long-forgotten world.

Sir Carol Mather

YOUR obituary of Prince George Galitzine prompted me to look out my copy of the July 1934 school photograph of St Paul's, in which Galitzine — and another boy called Charlton - appeared twice, at each end, having sprinted round the back and beaten the clockwork panpramic camera.

produced a pair of whale bones, fastened at one end

with insulating tape, and pro-

Sensing a sceptic, he in-

vited me to walk alongside his Citroen, my forearms held in tension by the forked whale bones. I was unable to pre-

vent the violent swing of the

device as I walked past the

engine. Rocard explained his

hypothesis of "bio-magne-tism" and described his

ceeded to survey the area.

Hubert Darke

Yves Rocard

TO YOUR summary (March 23) of Yves Rocard's scientific work. I wish to add his contribution to research in support of treaties to ban nuclear weapon tests. He represented France at the "Geneva Conference of Experts" in 1958 when ways and means for detecting violations by the ex-plosions' geophysical effects in space, the atmosphere and underground were evaluated.

It was while conducting me on a tour of his seismological network, designed to verify underground tests in the presence of earthquakes, that he introduced me to experimental water divining. The station in the Morvan, south of Paris, suffered a water supexperiments with small magnets attached to the forearms of his students.

Yves Rocard's lively sense of humour would have been aroused to see Aldermaston engineers seeking a water main under the lawn of my laboratory by means of a ha-

Hal Thirlaway

ply problem. Yves Rocard

Norman Bruce

NORMAN Bruce (obituary. April I) and I played together for Blackheath in their centenary year 1957-58, but latterwere also colleagues at Prestfelde Prep School, Shrewsbury, where Norman put in sterling service as a teacher after his army career ended. He was greatly loved by the boys there, to whom he taught woodwork, fly-tying and fly-fishing, as well as

coaching them to a high stan-

dard of rugby. He was also a very committed Christian and served both his home parish and our chapel well. Our processional cross, pews and other church furnishings will continue to testify to both his skill as a carpenter and the deep faith which sustained him over these last courageous

The Rev John Waddington-

1925

Bep van

Klaveren

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red gang

34 office

BEP van Klaveren, a Dutch boxer whose fast and furious style earned him the nickname "The Dutch Wind-mill", has died aged 84. Dutch boxing commentators rated him as one of the best the country had produced -more a demolition man than a boxer" was the verdict of the Dutch national daily paper,

Algemeen Dagblad, report-

ing on his death. Van Klaveren was the only Dutch boxer ever to win an Olympic gold medal; he was placed first in the featherweight division at the 1928 games in Amsterdam. He also held the European lightweight and middleweight titles at various times during

Van Klaveren was a fighter in the old style, aggressive and hard punching, continually moving forward and relying chiefly on his footwork rather than his hands for

He toured extensively in the Unites States and Australia in the 1930s and 1940s, but he was was never granted the world championship challenge he so obviously merited by American boxing

ring at the age of 48, after losing a European championship challenge to Idriss

during the 1930s.

He finally retired from the Dionne, a French fighter half

about an aristocratic Jew's troubles during the time of Christ. Distinguished writers like Maxwell Anderson, Gore Vidal and, especially, Christopher Fry were drafted to iron out colloquial phrases and buff the lines with literary polish: "Did you enjoy your dinner?", for instance, became, in Fry's hands. "Was

the food to your liking?". Fry's contribution fuelled a controversy. Although Tunberg readily agreed to share the writing credit with Fry, the Screen Writers Guild (for whom Tunberg had served as president) adjudged Tunberg the sole writer. In 1960 the film was nominated for twelve Academy Awards, including Best Adapted Screenplay. Significantly or not, this was the only category where the Oscar failed to materialise. Tunberg had held the

Screen Writers Guild's presi-

dency in 1951: a difficult can Activities Committee. dedicated to communism's eradication, was burrowing feverishly into Hollywood writers' private lives. To safeguard the guild's status and forestall further enquiries, Tunberg, an apolitical liberal, was authorised by the guild's board to provide committee investigators with all records of union meetings. Writers who appeared as "unfriendly" witnesses did so without the guild's official support

Otherwise. Tunberg's career proved busy but uneventful. He went to Hollywood after teaching experience, berthing first at Twentieth Century Fox. Glossy musicals were an early speciality: along with Down Argentine Way (1940), with Betty Grable and Carmen
Miranda warbling away, he comedy with Jackie Gi
and Maureen O'Hara.

(1945), with Paulette God-dard and Ray Milland, di-rected by Mitchell Leisen, a succulently staged drama about a guttersnipe-turned-duchess in Gainsborough's and considered quite racy in its day. Then MGM and Ben Hur beckoned. In the 1960s, Tunberg's output dwindled, mirroring the collapse of the Hollywood

worked on My Gal Sal (1942) and Orchestra Wives

(1942). At Paramount, a few

years later, he produced sev-

eral of his own scripts: Kitty

studio system. He worked on several British films, including an unbuttoned melodrama, I Thank a Fool (1962). and The Seventh Dawn (1964), a romantic foray, directed by Lewis Gilbert, into the Malayan jungles. Eventually he settled in London.

For MGM Where Were You When the Lights Went Out?, with Doris day and Terry-Thomas, did not quite live up to the promise of its ican films was How Do I Love Thee? (1970), a sentimental comedy with Jackie Gleason

Other estates include (net. be fore

Mr Francis Albert James Vincent,

of Toines, Devon £1,142,105.

Mrs Phyllis Mary Woolfenden, of

Hove, East Sussex £1.420.188.

Mr John Edwin Branston,

Mrs Marian Jackson. of

Weston Underwood, Bucking

hamshire......£1,197.643.

Mr Eric Alfred Bruell, of

Mr Peter Richard Hager, of

Mrs Josephine Naomi Pears, of

Regent's Park.....£1.457,121.

..... £1,167,948.

Chippenham.

ON THIS DAY April 8

Though traffic on the roads in 1925 was comparatively light. headlight dazzle was seen to be a problem. However, the switching off of headlights

HEADLIGHTS. VIEWS OF MOTORISTS.

Controversy has again arisen among motorists as to the advisability of switching off powerful headlights when question of danger from dazlikely in 1923 that the Ministry matter in hand should not legislate in a hurry, and the discretion of motorists is still

present the Ministry of Transport is contemplating the introduction into Parliament, possibly during this session, of a Road Vehicles Bill. and in this the Minister may seek to obtain powers to issue regulations in respect of the more

however, and the framing of satisfactory regulations is another, and it is unlikely that the technical advisers of the Minister will propose the imwithout a full consideration of the progress made with the evolution of "anti-dazzle" lamps or devices and of the generally admitted danger to other users of the roads cau by the sudden switching off of arranged by the Royal Auto-mobile Club. of "anti-dazzle" inventions was held in Richmond Park in February, and devices produced by about 50 separate firms then received a trial. The tests showed that the manufacturers were advancing slowly towards a solution of the problem, but motorists were not convinced that a really satisfactory lamp had been found. Since then the RAC has received further applications for trials, and it is clear that the manufacturers are giving close

attention to the subject.

Meanwhile, motorists are troubled by the confusion creared as the result of conflicting should be kept on or shut off when cars are about to meet in the dark. The majority of drivers have now adopted the conclusion of the committee of the Royal Automobile Club that switching off headlights when passing other vehicles with powerful lamps is a dangerous practice. The chief drawback to a sudden diminuis that drivers are unable to adapt themselves immediately to the change of lighting. This leads to a risk of losing, momentarily, a correct sense of direction, and also of running

only one of a number concerned with lighting as it affects the motorist. Car owners are asking, for instance, for improvements of street lighting, and Captain E. H. Fryer, the head of the Road Department of the Automobile Association, has urged that there is need of a national standard of

Supper

Franco-British Society
The annual meeting and supper
of the Franco-British Society was held last night at the RAF Club The Marquess of Lansdowne president, was in the chair and presented the Enid McLeod lit-erary prize to Mr Frank Giles and the Landscape Gardening award to Mme Marie-Louise Hemphil Presidente-Fondatrice of Les Amis du Jardin Shakespeare, Paris M Michel Lummauz, Cultural Counsellor at the French

Embassy, was the guest speaker and Sir Reginald Hibbert, chair-man of the society, also spoke. Birthdays today

Mr Hywel Bennett, actor, 48; General Sir Anthony Farrar-Hockley, 68: Mr J.P. Kavanagh. racehorse trainer, 49; Sir Neil Lawson, former High Court judge, 84: Air Commandant Dame Alice Lowrey, former ma-tron-in-chief, PMRAFNS, 87: Mrs Mary Moore, former principal, St Hilda's College, Oxford. 62: Mr W. Garth Morrison. Chief Scour, 49: Mr Eric Porter, actor. 64: Mr Ian Smith, former Prime Minister of Rhodesia, 73: Professor Maurice Stacey, chemist, 85; Sir Thomas Thomson, chairman, Greater Glasgow Health Board. 69: Miss Dorothy Tutin, actress.

Mr Cliff Morgan was the guest of honour at a luncheon of the First Day Cover Club held yesterday at the RAF Club to mark the issue of the Europa 92 stamps, including a special stamp honouring the British Paralympics team. Mr Keith McDowall presided.

Luncheon First Day Cover Club

Armong those present were:

Mr Colin Pawson, Mr Anthony Wealc.
Mr Valan Tuffin. Mr Alan Johnson, Mr
David Evans, Ms Inga Jones, Mrs Clare
Reid and Mr Darryll McGee.

Classical Association

How man's best friend avoided the cooking pot

BY PHILIP HOWARD

FOOD and sex were topics that occupied the Classical Association at its annual meeting in Oxford vesterday. These are ancient human preoccupations. And the classicists went back to their

Dr Robert Sallares of Manchester examined how our modern attitudes towards animals were formed by our remote ancestors. Neanderthal man emerged from the ice ages hungry, and eating any kind of meat that moved. Gradually man formed cultural prejudices about what to do with different animals. It is a mere accident of history that in the United Kingdom we eat pigs, but not generally dogs, horses, or insects. In fact the human body produces an enzyme whose only function is to break down the flesh of insects. So there is nothing unnatural about eating them; except for our histo-

ry and conditioning.

If an animal could not be integrated into an ancient economy, it became suspect, and regarded as unclean

meat. This explains that taboo on pig (a bad trotter at the best of times) in nomadic societies. Dogs gradually be-came forbidden meat for the opposite reason, because they became man's best friend. Europeans have been making animals into pets for forty centuries. Some animals, like horses and cows, became taboo for eating because they were too valuable, as cows still are in India. A Roman was prosecuted for murder for killine an ox.

Of all our ancestors the Egyptians have the strangest relation to animals, making their Gods in the image of animals, even those scavengers, the jackal and the dung beetle. Only the poor old hippopotamus was not deemed sacred. This lecture, combined with Magdalen cuisine, was enough to turn a sensitive man vagan.

Mr Ken Dowden of Birmingham University took the conference back to the ancient European wars between the sexes, represented by the proto-feminist Ama-

zons. These are the wild warrior women with female bodies but unfeminine natures. The notion that they cut off their right breasts to make it easier to throw javelins is probably just foolish folk etymology. In art they have two breasts. Women rule, OK? but why is the removal of only one breast a denial of femininity? And why in the myth is there no race of men who have removed one testicle? In the myths the only good

Amazon was a dead one. Their function in life is to fight, and have their belts removed (as for sex, and childbirth) and die. Mr Dowden reckons that the point of the myth of the Amazons was to reinforce gender roles in a male society. Greek girls were allowed to race and hunt, perform military dances and other unladylike activities, as a rite of passage while they were maidens. When they married, Amazons had to die. That is, they had to settle down at home as invisible little women, and have babies.

Latest wills

Dame Gwen Ffrangeon-Davies, the classical actress who fre-quently appeared with Sir John Gielgud, left £116,124 net. She left just under £80,000 to personal beneficiaries and the remainder to charity and other groups. She died in January aged 101.

Jean Eleanor Batters, of Eastbourne. East Sussex, left estate valued at £708,169 net. She left her pictures to the Towner Art Gallery, Eastbourne, and the residue to the Actors Charitable

Mrs Violet Marion Keil, of Broadway, Hereford and Worcester, left estate valued at £2,109,394 net.

Lady Elizabeth Agnes Mary Weld, of Lulworth Manor. Wareham, Dorset, wife of Sir Joseph Weld, former Lord Lieutenant of Dorset and chair-

Memorial service The Right Rev C.R. Claxton The Lord Lieutenant of Lan-

cashire was represented by Mr Michael Fitzherbert-Brockholes, Vice-Lord Lieutenant, at a service of thanksgiving for the life of the Right Rev Charles Robert Claxton held yesterday in Blackburn Cathedral. The Provost of Blackburn officiated. Mr Simon Claxton, son, read the lesson and Mr David Claxton, son, read from the works of Canon Henry Scott Holland. The Archdeacon of Biackburn gave an address and the Bishop of Blackburn pro-

nounced the blessing. The Bishop of Liverpool, the Bishop of Warrington and the Right Rev J.W. Roxburgh were

Church news

Kensington...

Resignations and retirements The Rev Canon Bernard Brown, Bishop's Social and Industrial Adviser and Team Leader (Bristol): to retire as from June 30. The Rev Canon John Cockerson, Rector, Wheldrake with Thorganby (York): to retire as from

The Rev Peter Jefford, Rector, Raddon Team Ministry (Exeter): to retire as from May 31. The Rev John Newton, Rector, St Peter and St Paul, Todwick (Shef-

field): to retire as from April 30. The Rev John Scholefield, Vicar, Stoke Gabriel and Collaton St. Mary (Exeter): to retire as from

title and remained stage-bound. Among his last Amer-

whiching off of neutrights when two cars met was not seen to be a very good idea. Lord Montagu of Beaulieu (1866-1929) was a pioneer of motoring in England. He was the father of the present peer. "DAZZLE"

meeting other motor vehicles with similar lighting equipment. So long ago as 1909 the zling headlamps was receiving the attention of the Royal Automobile Club, and experiments were made with the various devices to see if the trouble caused by glaring lights could be remedied. These early devices were crude in character and did not come into effective use. Since the war the number of cars on the roads has greatly increased and the dazzle difficulty has become more acute. It seemed of Transport would take action. but experts like Lord Montagu of Beaulieu tirged that the mobile bodies who had the

unrestricted by regulations.
As the position stands at Taking powers is one thing. tion of illumination of the road down pedestrians or cyclists. The question of "dazzle" is

THE image of a typical car salesman as a slick, sharpsuited Arthur Daley character giving the customer the hard sell could be destroyed for good at an industrial tribunal next month. Four men who made their living selling cars are to claim that they were sexually discriminated against by a motor dealer that they allege employs only women on its sales staff.

The case, due to be heard at an industrial tribunal in Birmingham on April 27, could have ramifications for the traditionally male-dominated car industry. Dealers are tak-

Russians spark row over fleet

Continued from page 1

others to Ukraine. Those re-based. Marshal Shaposhnikov announced to applause, would sail under the flag of the Russian navy. According to the decree, Russia will guarantee to finance the fleet, which is likely to prove its strongest card in the coming talks. Ukraine will be invited by Mr Yeltsin to "take as much independence as it can swallow" — and can pay for. Over the past week, Mr

Yeltsin has announced that former Soviet troops in Moldavia and the Trans-Caucasus have been transferred to Russian jurisdiction, placing them in the same category as former Soviet troops stationed in Eastern Europe, the Baltic states and Mongolia.

Yesterday, Mr Yeltsin informed the Russian congress that Russia could no longer delay the formation of its own army. He said that the army (currently estimated at 2.2 million) would eventually number about 1.5 million, but that the surplus 700,000 would be demobilised only when adequate arrangements could be made for their housing and employment. Numbers of troops and weapons would be within the limits provided for in international agreements.

Path to reform, page 15 he said.

sales staff because they are regarded as more customerfriendly and more women are buying cars.

women.
The men, Gary Johnson, aged 46, Richmond Clarke,

knowledged for some time that more car dealers believed that customers preferred women sales staff and that salesmen had suffered from the outdated Arthur Daley image. Women who were being taken on were often well-trained professionals and not just "bimbos".

tute of the Motor Industry. which represents 28,000 professionals, said yesterday that more women were buying cars and most men consulted their wives or girlfriends be-

professional female forecourt The action is against Swith-

land Motors, based at Colmore Group in Birming-

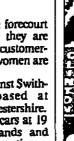
aged 46. Richmond Clarke, aged 47. Alan Tudor, aged 52 and Michael Smith, aged 32, failed at an earlier hearing to prove that they had been unfairly dismissed by Swithland, but yesterday they were given the right to take their claim of sexual discrimination against the company before an industrial tribunal. Mr Johnson, of Kidderminster. Hereford and Worcester, said yesterday that the

four men had been interviewed for sales posts, but he believed that the company had no intention of offering

A spokesman for the Insti-

fore purchasing a vehicle.
"In the United States there

omen and it is increasing terrifically here. Dealers reckon that a woman buying a car will trust another



Mountsorrel, Leicestershire. The company sells cars at 19 sites in the Midlands and while it denies operating a women-only policy, it admits that the majority of its sales staff is female. The case arose when Swithland took over the ham last March. Four sales-man with the company claim that they were not offered jobs with the new owners and that the posts eventually went to

them jobs. He claimed the firm boasted in the press that sales staff and added: "It was plain men were never going to be offered positions." The motor industry has ac-

is a growing demand for



Continued from page 1 night that he was determined to repay the debt he owed to his country and he appealed for a personal mandate to

carry forward Tory reforms.
The prime minister outlined what he called "ten Tory truths" as the reasons why his party would triumph. Strong defence, a commitment to the free market, low taxation to create wealth, controlling in-flation, implacable hostility to the "tyranny" of trade union power, nourishing the health and education services, spreading private ownership. privatising once loss-making state industries, and strong government were the hall-mark of Conservative government, he said.

"Britain under Labour would become an international also-ran, pulling on the tatty red vest while everyone else is running in blue," he said. "Russia wouldn't be turning to us for help; it would be turning away in would sideline Britain in a

The Labour leader launched a withering attack on the government in Black-burn last night. "The Tories have no new policies, no new ideas, no positive solutions, no ambition for our country,

Labour poll lead trimmed

he said. "They are tired, they are washed up. They are like door-to-door salesmen, blue

of shabby campaigns

customer, unable to think of a new angle." He highlighted the need to vote Labour to save the National Health Service: "It is in mortal danger. Its whole future rests on the decision we take as a nation when we vote in the general election." The choice would be made between building up the NHS or breaking it up.

Mr Ashdown, campaigning in Cornwall, accused the Tories of trying to bully people out of supporting his party. "However desperate their attacks, however weak they feel, the Conservative party will not be allowed to drag our country down with their party as they now con-template defeat. More and more the Tories are now play-ing a dangerous game," said Mr Ashdown. "They have a very simple attitude. If you don't vote Conservative, they treat you either as a fool or as

Leading article, page 17 his hair.

Northeast England and eastern Scotland will be cloudy, clear-

ing to the coast where it will remain dull and misty. Thundery

Donovan to cut libel bill

By Ray Clancy

JASON Donovan last night offered to cut by "some 70 per cent" the damages and costs awarded against the magazine that suggested he was a homosexual, a liar and

The singer and actor also offered to take the reduced sum over 18 months, Richard East, his manager, said. Mr Donovan wanted The Face to be able to continue publishing.

The Face, which was ordered to pay Mr Donovan £200,000 libel damages and also faces another £200,000 in costs, meanwhile launched a public appeal to meet the bill. Nick Logan, the founder said it would be the founder, said it would be called the Lemon Fund — a reference to Mr Donovan's admission in court that he

Exit polls put Clinton ahead in New York

negative opinions about Mr Clinton. Late on Monday he told voters: "I don't say vote for me. But certainly don't vote for Clinton A second poll by the Marist College Institute of Public

Opinion found a "very high" proportion of undecided voters for this late stage of a primary. The survey suggested that the turnout would be well below 50 per cent of registered Democrats. Democratic party manag-

ers were hoping that yester-day's votes would finally wrap up the party's frustrating and damaging search for a nomi-nee to fight President Bush. If Mr Clinton stumbles

badly - particularly in New York - there is speculation that Mr Tsongas, the former senator who suspended his campaign for lack of money. will return to the fray.

said he would reactivate his

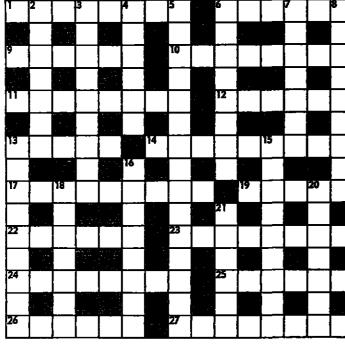
badly. His wife. Niki, said her husband would return if he got 20 per cent or more of the vote in New York.

 Troops leave: General Colin Powell, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, said yesterday that 1,000 American troops were now leaving Europe every week. But he gave an "absolute guaranthat America would leave a fully-manned corpssize force in Europe "capable of carrying out real

General Powell, speaking in London, said that Britain and her European allies should ignore the cries of those Americans who called for the total withdrawal of American troops in Europe. It remained in American interests, to stay in Europe, he

Peter Stothard, page 16

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,887



ACROSS

DIR

- 1 Dog has orange or an apple (8). 6 Plan paid for a coal-carrier (6). 9 This man is a former champion
- 10 In superior position after taking
- 11 Sergeant-major resolving matter
- 12 Able to vary act, showing reflective capacity (b).
- 13 Publicity chap would be a lunatic on the motorway (5).
- 14 Party affair a distraction (4-5). 17 Dodge by directors helps nego-
- tiate sticky situation (4-5). 19 The other side of time (5). 22 No new allowances for relations

(6). Solution to Puzzle No 18.887

DINGHYROUNDOFF R O C O T N I C I INTERPRET GRAIN F A S O H H H R I TABLEAU ENITABLE

I L T B B O N H

CHELA LIITTORAL

E H U B H U B V 23 Impressive declaration of a pre-

24 Likely place for an unofficial rose? (8). 25 Truthfulness of no account in church office? (6). 26 Knack needed by some scouts (6).

27 Singer of some eminence? (8).

2 Means of directing game may depend on this (7).

3 Thieving prowler — a nocturnal bird (5-4). 4 Taking food from a tin for example? (6). 5 Equipment for high-altitude

6 Spinster say caught barking up the wrong tree (8). 7 One having expectations like Portia (7).

training (8-7).

8 Light support for party disclosure 13 Soldier's hat is missing on

manoeuvres here (9). 15 Turning left, like Compton Mackenzie's street (9). 16 Accept odd trips as fitting for sailing ship (8).

18 Keep to the Doctor's book (7). 20 Bertie Wooster's looking-glass 21 Bend measured at regular inter-

> Concise Crossword, page 11 Life & Times section

THE PART WAS SHORT A daily safari through the language jungle. Which definitions are correct?

By Philip Howard

FAGOTTO a. A savoury spiced offal roll b. A bassoon c. An Italian homosemal SLYPE

S.LIPE.

a. To sharpen to a point
b. A police informer
c. Stippery and lithe
CHOREA
a. The Greek tragic stage
b. Variant spelling of Korea
c. St Vitus's dance

Answers on page 18

AN BOADWATCH (1)	
For the latest AA traffic and road- works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code London & SE	Austra Austria Belgius Canada
C. London (within N & S. Circs.) 731 M-ways/roads M4-M1 732 M-ways/roads M1-Dartford 7 733 M-ways/roads Dartford 7-M23 734 M-ways/roads M23-M4 735 M25 London Orbital only 736	Denma Finland France Germa Greece Hong N Instand Italy Li
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showers, heavy at times especially in southern parts, will develop by late morning, dying out later. Scotland, Northern Ireland and parts of northern England will be dry with long sunny.periods. Outlook: dry and warm after overnight fog. Eastern and southeastern coasts staying misty with drizzle in the far northwest. CONTROL BUILDANCE Sun Rain hrs in 0.4 0.00 8.8 0.22 3.6 0.47 0.1 0.13 0.2 0.22 1.7 0.27 0.2 0.01 4.9 0.03 5.3 0.40 0.5 0.06 0.1 0.01 4.9 0.56 0.4 0.56 C F8 rain 11 522 surmy 10 502 shower 11 522 shower 11 522 shower 11 522 shower 11 522 shower 11 523 shower 11 523 rain 11 523 rain 11 523 rain 11 524 rain 11 524 rain 11 525 rain 12 544 rain 12 545 rain 12 545 rain 12 546 drizzale 12 54 rain 12 546 drizzale 12 54 rain 12 546 drizzale 12 54 rain 12 55 rain Anglesey
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WEDNESDAY WASH

t polls put Cli

ead in New York



Richard Jeffrey argues that Labour's tax proposals would hit the families with crippling mortgages, who are critical to Britain's housing market

MORE BOOKS

St Ives, the printer, believes Labour would spend more on education, and it hopes to print the extra textbooks Tempus, page 22

WELL DRESSED

NEXT

Next, the retail group that collapsed after aggressive expansion, is making a profit and has resumed dividend payments Page 23

GOOD RETURNS

A development bank run by civil servants has made £44 million profit on a £2 million investment in Hong Kong Page 23

POWER BASE



PowerGen, the electricity generator, plans to negotiate pay deals with all unions at the same time instead of in three batches Page 23

Stores chief campaigns against rises

Tesco to fight banks' plastic card charges

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH AND NEIL BENNETT

BRITAIN'S big retailers are bracing themselves for a confrontation with the clearing banks over in-creased charges for handling direct debit and credit card transactions.

Tesco, Britain's secondlargest supermarket group, which yesterday announced a 25 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £546 million, gave warning that it would strongly resist the increases, which came into effect on April 1. There was also a veiled threat from Tesco that if charges did not come down the group may consider suspending the direct debit system it has spent £20 million

installing.
Sir Ian MacLaurin, Tesco's chairman, accused the banks of unilaterally increasing charges without negotiations to an unsupportable level. He said: "We believe the banks are behaving disgracefully. They have deeply upset us. We intend to take a firm line and we are not alone."

David Maipas, managing director at Tesco, said the group had written to the Office of Fair Trading about what it perceives as a cartel. Tesco is fighting the changes via the British Retailers Asso-ciation. Mr Malpas said 20 per cent of Tesco's sales are paid for by direct debit with cards such as Switch and

Bank charges for process-ing a direct debit transaction have doubled in some cases and trebled in others, he said. Typically, a large retail group ect debit transaction. From April I the charge has risen to 12p and in some cases 18p. The group is also unhappy

about a rise in credit-card transaction handling fees. These increased from 1 per cent of the item sale price to 1.1 per cent and are set to rise to 1.3 per cent next year. However, the banks are

of Switch UK, said: "Retailers great product, but they do not want to pay for it." He said Switch charges are rising because card issuers were demanding more money for

guaranteeing payments.

Barclays, Britain's largest credit and debit card issuer and transaction processor, said credit card fees had fallen substantially since 1989 and the bank had lost money on the business in the past

A spokeswoman said: "Retailers have seen the benefits of plastic cards. There are 45 million cards in Britain and they are a powerful spending force. The retailers are tough negotiators but we need to be tough as well because we need to make these charges Tesco unveiled a strong set

of figures yesterday despite the recession, which affected sales in the second-half last

Turnover increased 12.9 per cent to £7.6 billion and pre-tax profits grew 25.1 per cent to £546 million. Fullydiluted earnings per share grew 20.2 per cent to 19.95p. and the final dividend is 4.3p. making 6.3p for the year, an increase of 20 per cent. The



Malpas: complaint

group is serving 500,000 customers every Sunday at 200 stores and Sir Ian said there was a huge demand for Sunday shopping. The recession appears to be easing and the group's performance has improved steadily since the low point in November, he said.

Tesco has increased its market share from 9.4 per cent to 9.6 per cent. Twenty four new stores were opened last year, at a cost of £700 million, and 28 are due to open this year.
These should create 7,000

jobs. The group is experi-menting with a new small store format, Tesco Metro, and one is due to open in London's Covent Garden shortly.

Sir lan, whose pay came under fire after last year's report and accounts showed he earned £1.48 million, more than £1 million of which was profit-related, said this year's report would show a sharp fall in director's

He said the group made no political donations last year. We are apolitical but my top priorities for the economy are: control of initiation, control of interest rates, retaining management talent in the ŬK and the generation of real jobs including encouragement of foreign investment."

Mr Malpas said the group

made a spirited defence of its profit margins before a House of Commons select "Consumers in the UK

have to spend a much smaller proportion of their disposable their counterparts in other developed countries. "Our prices are lower than they were in 1985. Consum-

revision could come at the forthcoming OECD ministeers in this country get an astonishingly good deal com-pared to their counterparts rial meeting on May 18-19. The International Moneon the Continent," he said. tary Fund in Washington has, meanwhile, downgraded its forecast for global growth

Tempus, page 22 too. Washington sources said

THE improvement in world

economic conditions that was

to speed up recovery in Brit-

ain this year is likely to be

more modest than previously

expected, according to the

latest assessment by two key international organisations. Jean-Claude Paye, secre-tary general of the Organiza-

tion for Economic Co-oper-

ation and Development, said

yesterday that the Paris-

based organization of the

leading 24 industrial econo-

mies could revise down slight-

ly its growth forecast for

1992. Its last forecast, pub-

lished in December, put

erowth in the real national

product in the OECD area at

2.2 per cent this year, up from

1993, the OECD predicted

3.3 per cent growth. M Paye,

speaking in Bonn, said the

per cent in 1991. For

Recovery in world growth likely to be more modest

> world was now expected to reach only 2 per cent this year, compared with the 2.8 per cent foreseen last Octo-ber. After "lacklustre" growth performance this year, the IMF board expect a pick-up to 3.25 per cent in 1993. America, whose recovery has yet to become firmly established, is seen leading the world recovery, expanding 1.5 per cent this year and 3.5 per cent next. European growth is expected to be slower. But Ger-

growth in the industrial

many, the regional powerhouse, is forecast to accelerate to 3.25 per cent next year from 1.25 per cent growth in 1992. The world as a whole, tions, is expected to grow more slowly than the industrial world, but speed up in 1993. Dissenting voices at the IMF believe that even the downgraded growth prognosis could still be over-optimistic. They remain concerned that consumer confidence will continue to be constrain-

ed by the debt overhang in

America and persistent high interest rates in Europe. But he acknowledged that many people were concerned about the outlook for the world economy despite the fund's forecast of a pick-up next year. Despite his warning of slower growth, M. Paye made clear that he still expects general recovery in the OECD area during the second half of this year. The downward revision for the whole year reflected the delayed start to the pick-up in activity. He drew attention to the serious constraints that limit OECD countries' room for fiscal manoeuvre. Further increases in

inflation and hinder nascent recovery, he said. Following poor American jobs data last week. Wall Street has again become unsure about the durability of the American recovery. But M. Paye added the OECD's weight to the view that the American recovery is already under way.

budget deficits could stoke

Comment, page 25 (16.4p).

Tories creeping up on Labour



Where there's brass: Richard Holland, at the group's London factory, after announcing a rise in profits

Boosey & Hawkes in tune

MUSIC publishing and instrument making sound an improbat's counter to worldwide recession. But the com-bination has proved effective at Boosey & Hawkes, which enjoyed a 23.0 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £4 million.

Richard Holland, the chief executive, said: "We have not seen any effect of recession on the publishing business so lar
— including the first quarter of the current year. But we do expect to see some slowdown...this year." The publishing division's operating profits rose 31 per cent to £3.5

Instrument making has been more affected by recession, although operating profits rose 13 per cent to £3.1 million, with sales to Japan and the Har East enhanced D the strong yen. However, Mr Holland said the British market had been one of the worst affected. To help remedy a rise in stocks of unsold instruments, nine jobs are to be shed at the group's brass factory at Edgware, London. A final dividend of 14.5p (12.4p) makes a a total of 20p

THE POUND:

US dollar 1.7463 (-0.0049) German mark 2.8433 (+0.0072) Exchange index 90.1 (+0.1) Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share 1865.3 (+6.1) FT-SE 100 2404.2 (+3.3) **New York Dow Jones** 3270.57 (-4.92)* Tokyo Nikkei Avge

17791 55 (-644.82) INTEREST RATES

London: Bani: Base: 10/4% 3-month Interbank 101%-10/4% 3-month eligible bills: 10%-10%% US: Prime Rate 6/5% Federal Funds 313/6% 3-month Treasury Bills 3.88-3.87%* 30-year bonds 1011132-101132*

CURRENCIES

New York: £ \$1.7491" \$: DM1.6250" \$ SwFr1.4917" \$: FFr5.5035* \$: Yen133.24 £ FFr9 6243 E Yen233 24 £ Index:90 1 \$: Index:64.5 ECU 10.717538 \$DA 10.788104 £ ECU1 393654 £ \$DR1.268668 London forex market close

GOLD:

London Fixing: AM \$338 50 pm-\$338 75 close \$337 80-338 30 (£193.00-New York: Comex \$337 75-338.25*

NORTH SEA OIL Brent (May) \$18.90 bbl (\$18.95)

RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 136.3 February (1987=100) Denotes midday trading price

Virani steps down at **Control Securities**

BY NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

NAZMU Virani, the entrepreneur who is facing a charge of false accounting, has stepped down as chairman and chief executive of Control Securities, the property and leisure group.

The announcement came on the day Mr Virani was released on bail of £1.25 million at the City of London magistrates court. Bail was put up in three sureties. Two, of £500,000 each, were made by Mr Virani's brothers Zul and Silu. The remainder was offered by Narinder Chadha, a family friend.

Mr Virani must surrender his passport, visit Rochester Row police station twice a week and remain based at his home in Putney, south London. The case was adiourned until July 7.

Control Securities, Mr Virani's main company, said that he had decided to step

down "pending the resolution of the current Serious Fraud Office investigations into his private affairs". Mr Virani will continue to act as a nonexecutive director, and his two brothers remain in their positions as executive directors. Mr Virani and his family still control 12 per cent of the group's shares.

Control has promoted Sydney Robin, a non-executive director, to become chairman until the group makes a permanent appointment. Mr Robin was previously a depumanaging director of Great Universal Stores.

A statement from Control emphasised that the company was not under investigation itself and that the SFO enquiries, which is connected with the Bank of Credit and Commerce International. were focused on Mr Virani's

Japan fears Nikkei has further to fall

From JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO

AS TOKYO share prices fell sharply yesterday and the Nikkei 225 index slipped to a five-year low of 17,791,55. worries were voiced by finance ministry and ruling Liberal Democratic Party officials that the market still has some way to go before a significant rebound is

Shigeki Morinobu, a fi-

nance ministry official, said: "We have taken all short-term measures possible, including lowering the official discount rate to 3.75 per cent and implementing a package of emergency economic measures to boost the economy. Neither seems to have had the desired effect of boosting the stock market." He added that suggested long-term measures, such as allowing companies to buy their own shares or removing the tax

charged on share transac-

tions, would require legislative changes that would take time, "which we do not have". The LDP has formed a task force to draft a package of measures to help support falling share prices and longterm steps designed to attract

These have yet to be unveiled. Trading yesterday was slow, with an estimated 200 million shares changing hands, far below the 1.5 billion that used to be traded in the market's heyday in 1989 when the Nikkei almost topped the 40,000 mark.

investors back to the market.

According to Chris Dodson, of Merrill Lynch Japan, the only thing that could force a significant upturn would be some favourable corporate earnings surprises in the real estate and construction sectors.

Five-year low, page 24

Crumbling island buys crumbling airline

By MATTHEW BOND

WHAT do you do if 80 years of intensive phosphate mining has left your island just a metre or so above the advancing. greenhouse-warmed waters of the Pacific? Answer: buy a plane — and fast. Faced with exactly that problem, Nauru. a tiny but rich island in the South Pacific, is endeavouring to do just that. In fact, it likes the idea so much, it wants to buy an entire airline.

The Nauru government yesterday made a A\$55 million (£24 million) offer for Compass Airlines, the Australian carrier whose failure last December left 125,000 would-be passengers with apparently worthless tickets. Since December, Compass has been run by provisional liquidators, who have been looking for between A\$30 million to A\$60 million of new capital to get the planes back in the air.

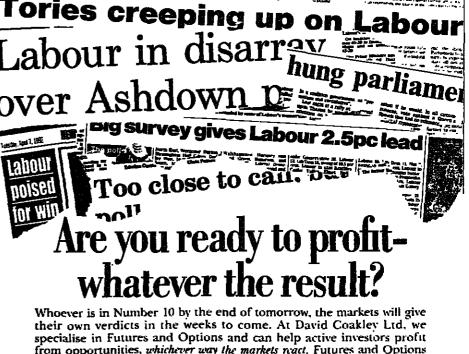
Despite having teamed up with Aust-

fin, a merchant bank, the Nauru government appears to be having difficulty in getting the liquidators to take its bid seriously. An earlier bid from the Nauru/Austfin combination has already been rejected, and, on Friday, the liquidators announced their intention to sell Compass to Southern Cross Airlines, a company, which despite its name, has yet to put a plane in the air. But Kinza Clodumar, Nauru's finance minister, is not a man to give up without fight. After consulting with Austfin. the revised offer shows the islanders are

determined to enter the airline market. The bid for Compass is Nauru's boldest attempt yet to improve what might be termed the quality of its national earnings. For after 80 years of mining — first by the Germans and then by "the phosphateers", a commission representing British, Australian and New Zealand national interests - Nauru's rich mineral resource is approach-

ing exhaustion. The price of realising its mineral wealth has been high. Over four-fifths of the island are said to resemble the surface of the moon, while the island is still pursuing a A\$72 million legal claim against the British, Australian and New Zealand governments for loss of profits prior to the island gaining independence in 1968. But the monetary rewards for the 6,000 or so islanders have been considerable.

Nauru's government has been aware that the phosphate income stream is nearing its end and has been diverting its national income into supposedly more secure international investments. including property. At one point, per-haps tired of the view out of the cabinet room window, the government toyed with the idea of buying a new island from the Australian government and moving the whole population to a more agreeable home. Presumably the view from 30,000ft is rather better.



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Profit figures stack up for Tesco

THERE are elements of the City that have been waiting for the three big supermarket groups to feel the effects of the recession. According to Tesco, it happened last year.

Far from faltering under the impact of a slowdown in volume growth. Tesco, whose chairman is Sir Ian Mac-Laurin, has emerged from one of the toughest years ever with a set of figures that would have sparkled even in the heady days of the boom.

In the 53 weeks to end-February, against 52 weeks to February 23, 1991, turner rose 12.9 per cent to £7.6 billion and pre-tax profits grew 25.1 per cent from £436 million to £546 million. Operating profits grew 20 per cent to £503 million.

The £572 million rights issue last year benefited the interest line by £69 million and diluted the earnings per share figure 3 per cent. The extra week added 2 per cent to pre-tax profits. Operating margins increased from 6.6 per cent to 7.1 per cent and fully diluted earnings per share grew 20.2 per cent to 19.95p. Property profits fell from £19.1 million to £500,000 and the final dividend is 4.3p. making 6.3p for the year, a rise of 20 per cent.

These results have been achieved in a year when the underlying volume growth was marginal. New stores accounted for 6.5 per cent of the 13 per cent sales increase and the extra week for 2 per cent. Sunday opening added less than I per cent to sales.

Tesco has achieved its profit levels by opening stores that perform at a higher level than the old stores. Last year, £700 milfion was spent on 24 new stores. Sales per employee have risen from £106,044 to £119,246 in the last year. and profit per employee from £7.018 to £8,456.

Tesco says the recession is easing and sales are running 11 per cent ahead. There are still some who believe that Tesco's strategy of spending £700 million a year on store openings is flawed, but Tesco is sticking to its strategy and it has more than ten years of



Shelves stacked high: Sir Ian MacLaurin, the chairman of Tesco, in one of the company's superstores

uninterrupted profits growth

to back it up.
Assuming pre-tax profits of £615 million (Henderson Crosthwaite) in the current year, the shares, up 4 p at 255 p, are trading on 11.7 times prospective earnings. They have bounced back from a low of 207p at Christmas and, while they might be unexciting in the short term, medium to longer term they o do not look

Meggitt

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Annual General Meeting

The AGM will also cover the Board's proposals for a change

in the Articles of Association which broadly will imply that

the clause in the Articles which places limitations on the right

of foreign nationals to acquire shares in the company (§7) be

removed, and resulting textual changes made. The abolition

of this clause, which is subject to government approval, will

authorise the Board, in accordance with Chapter 5, §9 of the

than the next ordinary general meeting. With the conversion

offer of 8,500,000 shares of the B series to be freely available.

This issue shall, with deviation from the shareholders' right of

preference, be directed at the international capital market.

For the right to participate in the meeting, shareholders must

Securities Register Centre (VPC AB) by Thursday April 16

and must notify the Company before noon Friday April 24 of

be recorded in the shareholders' register kept by the

their intention to attend (Aktiebolage) SKE S-415 50

Goteborg, Tel: +46-31-37 26 52), giving details of name.

The Board recommends that shareholders with holdings in

Annual General Meeting it is expected that the Securities

May 14, 1902. The proposed dividend is 4,25 kronor per share.

To facilitate payment of dividends, shareholders who have

Vardepapperscentralen VPC AB, S-171 18 Solna, well before

The Board of Directors

the register records on May 7 are entitled to receive dividends for 1991. If this date is accepted by the

Register Centre will send out notices of payment to

recorded shareholders and listed depositaries on

changed address are recommended to inform

Provy forms are available from:

Tel: +46-31-37 26 52 & 37 16 00.

Gotchorg, April 1992,

AB SKF, S-415 50 Göteborg, Sweden.

The Board's conditions for this issue would be those that

normally prevail with issues of this kind.

Notice of Attendance

address, telephone and shareholding.

Payment of Dividends

Companies Act, to issue convertible debentures not later

conditions valid at the time of issue, this will mean an

mean that all shares become free of the above restrictions.

The meeting will further cover the Board's proposal to

Ordinary general meeting business will be transacted

in accordance with Swedish law and the Articles of

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General

on Wednesday April 29, 1992.

Agenda

Meeting of Aktiebolaget SKF will be held at SKF Kristinedal, Byfogdegatan 4, Goteborg, at 3,30 p.m.

FOR Meggitt to have moved from gearing of 59 per cent to 26 per cent in 1991, even before the September rights issue that raised £39.6 million, is, if nothing else, an indication of just how lax control of working capital must have been among some of Britain's leading companies before the recession encouraged better house-

The rights issue left £22 million net in the bank, although this will soon be depleted by the \$53 million Endevco Corporation purchase announced last month. Bullish talk by Meggitt sug-gests that a further, similarly sized deal may be in prospect, probably in Europe and again in the controls field.

Meggitt will long be identified in the market's mind for

the debacle of the bid for

United Scientific Holdings, where the bidder backed

Sales take

Ossory

nearer goal

OSSORY Estates, the proper-

towards its target of covering

charges with rental income.

chairman, is cautious of some of the opportunities that have been pushed across his desk of late. He admits the company looked at Penny & Gîles, now under a £30

away at the last moment

after new financial informa-

Ken Coates, the Meggitt

tion came to light.

million agreed offer from Bowthorpe, before deciding that the asking price was too Meggitt's pre-tax profits were little changed in 1991 at £23.5 million against £23.9 million. Sandy Morris at County NatWest expects

another year of consolidation in 1992, although the Endevco buy, earnings-enhancing from the off, will boost the pre-tax figure to £27 million, he believes. The shares sell on about 11.5 times this year's earnings and 10.2 times the next year's. After a 25 per cent outperformance of the FT-SE index over the past year, they cannot be described as a raging buy, but the group's

proven ability at managing acquisitions should ensure

St Ives

longer-term support.

ST IVES will clap its cor-porate hands with glee if Labour wins tomorrow. Robert Gavron, chairman

believes then an extra £600 million would be spent on more text books - which St

sult of Nissan policy of having

a design centre in each of the

main markets in which it

makes cars, might help an-

swer European manufactur-ers' criticisms that the

Japanese only assemble cars

in Britain while important

design functions are carried

Nissan has been manufac-

turing at Washington, Tyne & Wear, since 1986 and will

increase output to 270,000

out in Japan.

cars a year in 1993.

Ives would love to print.

A kick to the economy might free up the advertising spend, as the general public shakes off its recession blues.

And, on balance, Labour would be generally more pos-itive for the economy, he But whatever the colour of the government. St Ives is

too far into the second half of the current financial year to be totally saved from the current economic gloom, and will, therefore, probably suffer more pressure on margins in the remaining months to end-July.

So after same again pre-tax profits of £10.1 million, for the six months to end-January, some dip in year-on-year profits looks likely.

The shares are, however, a buy on the grounds that St Ives has already taken effective cost measures to cope with tougher conditions, and because the balance sheet

remains strong.
With net cash of £3.4
million, compared with a net holding of £124,000 at the last balance sheet date, financial muscle is on its side. And if the smaller and weaker companies in the printing world are merely holding on by their finger tips. St Ives by contrast is waiting to move ahead.

When an upturn comes, the impact on St Ives's prof-its line will be direct and impressive. An estimated 30 per cent of any £10 million of additional turnover will feed straight through to profits. So the days of merely maintained interim dividends may not last too long. St Ives is operating at 75

per cent printing capacity, but the group has secured a higher market share in various fields of operation. City merger and acquisition activity should perk up after the general election, and specialised printing is prov-

specialised printing is proving a growing market.

Pre-tax profits of £18 million (£20.2 million) would not be too disappointing considering the trading background, and a strong profits recovery in 1993 seems likely. A 244p share price, up 5p, and 18.8 times rating, could look generous on a year's view.

Dividend

up at City

Centre

CITY Centre Restaurants,

which runs Garfunkel's and

Deep Pan Pizza, is raising its dividend despite a small de-

cline in profits. Pre-tax profits

last year slipped to £9.1 million (£10.6 million). The

final dividend is raised to

1.01p (0.94p), making 1.46p

(1.39p). Recession and the first half

impact of the Gulf war, severe

weather and transport dis-

ruption all served to keep

customers away from the group's outlets. However, Bruce Johnston, the chair-

man, said there are some

tentative signs of recovery.

Turnover climbed from £75.7

million to £79.8 million, with

the total number of restau-rants up nine to 154. Average

customer spending increased

Results for the current year

are "substantially ahead" on the comparable period. There

was an extraordinary debit of

£60,000. mainly due to a

provision against the group's

investment in Cullen's.
Earnings per share fell to
3.79p, against 4.04p last
time. The shares added 4p to

by 7 per cent.

60p.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Former Lex chief given £637,000 handshake

THE former managing director of Lex Service, who resigned soon after Christmas, received a 5037,000 compensation package, the company's 1991 report and accounts disclose. Peter Turnbull's salary was between £265,000 and £270,000 in 1991. Lex made pre-tax profits of just £500,000 that year.

Mr Turnbull's post was not filled after his departure. A spokesman for the company said a managing director was no longer needed because of the sale of the electronics businesses in America and Europe, which Mr Turnbull had been involved in restructuring, and the consequent decrease in the company's size. Last month. Lex reported that in addition to the profits fall, from £9.1 million in 1990 caused by the difference of the considerant it had lost the by the difficult conditions in the car industry, it had lost the concession to supply Volvo cars after 33 years.

Wescol cheers Leeds

A El MILLION contract to help build one of the world's largest football stands signals better fortune for Wescol, the structural engineering group. Construction industry prob-lems brought a loss of £379,000 before tax in the six months to January 31 (£180,000 loss). But the Leeds United contract, backed by several new orders, will help boost turnover, which fell £1.7 million, after stripping out discontinued operations of Lumbrook Sheeting Contractors. Wescol believes it is on course to break even. There is again no dividend.

Car dealer at £2.1 m

USED car sales and after-sales service provided a bulwark against difficult conditions in the new vehicle market at Dagenham Motors Group, holding pre-tax profits in the year to end-December at E2.11 million (E3.41 million). A 4.0p unchanged final dividend makes a same again 5.75p total. New vehicle sales fell 18.5 per cent and most of the new sales operations made little or no profit or ran at a loss. Used cars rose more than 30 per cent in sales and profits, while after-sales operations again provided most of the profits.

Demerger considered
PITTENCRIEFF is considering the demerger of the mobile
communications business from its oil and gas interests. Terry Heneaghan, the chairman, said communications, developed to provide radio services for oil production sites, could command "a substantial value" that was not fully reflected in Pittencreff's share price of 219p. Group pre-tax profits rose to £3.51 million (£2.03 million) last year and earnings to 17.25p (14.01p) a share. A final dividend of 3.50p (2.50p) makes a total of 6p (4.50p).

BLP deficit rises

veneers that is quoted on the USM, reports pre-tax losses of £2.6 million for last year (£198.000 loss). The company said its main markets in the UK and America had been severely affected by recession and turnover of the continuing businesses fell from £23.4 million to £21.7 million. The retained deficit for the year was £3.2 million or 38.2p a share. There is no ordinary dividend (0.25p), but payments on the preference shares are now up to date.

Ipeco pays more

IPECO Holdings, the manufacturer of aircraft seats based in Southend, Essex, is raising its dividend for last year after a resilient performance in a "most hostile" environment and despite a slight dip in profits. Pre-tax profits slipped 5.8 per cent to £3.38 million on turnover up 0.3 per cent to £18.1 million. The final dividend is 2.2p (2p), making 3.4p (3.2p). Earnings per share were 8.19p (8.74p). Ipeco said its trading position and strong balance sheet gave hope for further advances in the current year.

Black reduces losses

BLACK & Edgington Group, the supplier of hospitality tents and crowd barriers formerly known as Tubular Edgington. reported reduced interim losses and expects a return to profitability in the second half. The company suffered a pretax loss of £1.96 million in the six months to end-January (loss of £5.78 million). The figures were helped by a fall in interest payable to £266,000, against £930,000. Losses per share are reduced to 0.4p from 8.1p last time. Again, there is

Addison issue flops

THE £16 million rights issue by Addison Consultancy Group, the market research company, to finance an acquisition of businesses from the collapsed Maxwell empire has flopped, with only 2.4 per cent of the new shares taken up. The nine-for-four issue was priced at 12p compared with yesterday's unchanged market price of 11p and was underwritten by Robert Fleming.

THE TIMES

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Kume: "fully integrated"

Nissan opens car test and design

BY KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

ty company, has completed more than E40 million of sales so far this year, as it moves ONE of Europe's most adoverheads and interest About £17.5 million of in-

vestment sales were complet-ed by the end of the interim period, with the £177,000 profit generated by the sales saying much about the current state of the market. John Walker, the chairman, said: "It has become abundantly clear that the present recession is far deeper and will continue for much longer than was expected and that the business of Ossory, in common with almost all

property companies, will continue to be adversely affect-Mr Walker described opportunities for making profit from either trading or developing property as rare. Pretax profits at the group slumped from £4 million to

to end-December. The interim dividend has been cut from 2p to 0.15p, and the company said that the position of the final dividend would be reviewed "following consideration of the

year-end results".
In January it was announced that Joe Shaoul and Brett Allen, the company's joint managing directors, the rationalisation and cost cutting programme.

centre in Britain

vanced car test and design centres, which will bring technology from Japan to Britain, has been opened by Nissan in Bedfordshire. The company is spending

ESI million on the centre, which is linked by computer to Nissan's Japanese headquarters. Advanced vehicle designs can be transmitted to computer screens at the Nissan European Technology Centre at Cranfield. where engineers and designers are already working on developing a car that will be built at Nissan's British man-

ufacturing plant this year. The Cranfield site, the re-

The increase will be achieved by adding a new version of the Micra to the current Primera range made at Washington. The Micra will have been developed at Cranfield from the basic Japanese engine, chassis and body design, for production in Britain and sale through-

out Europe. Yutaka Kume, Nissan's president, said: "Now we can say that Nissan is a fully integrated European manufacturer, designing, produc-ing and selling vehicles in Europe for European cus-

The workload for the technology centre, which employs 360 people, includes a project to design a new 4x4 off-road vehicle for manufacture at Nissan's plant in Spain and development of the next generation of Primera saloons and hatchbacks.

Enter Sky Dragon Charter

A GROUP of farmers in China are foresaking their fur-rows to take to the skies but are having to contend with old-order bureaucracy in their struggle to begin the country's first privately run air service.

The farmers, from wealthy Cangnan county in east China's Zhejiang province, signed a contract on Sunday with the government-run Nanjing United Airlines to provide a service between Zhejiang's Wenzhou and Shanghai, the

targest city in China. Under the one-year contract, the farmers will provide flights twice a week. using a Chinese-made Yun 7-100 aircraft, a Nanjing United Airlines official said. The farmers, who are calling themselves Cangnan Sky Dragon Charter Airline Co. will sell seats on the 52-passenger aircraft for 150 yuan (£16) each. They will pay Nanjing Uni-

ted a fee equal to 82 per cent of the flight capacity — any-thing they sell above that level they can keep as profit. Conservative bureaucrats in Peking could still clip the

farmers' wings, however. An official at the Civil Aviation Administration of China said that the organisation would investigate and close down the farmers' service if it

found anything wrong.

An earlier foray by the farmers into chartering aircraft ran into difficulties with Chinese bureaucracy last month. Since July last year

the group had been renting a between Wenzhou and Changsha, capital of Hunan province. This generated revenue of close to two million

But they had to stop flights on March 25 when the regional government-owned carrier — whose plane it was — transferred the aircraft elsewhere, an official of the Hunan Civil Aviation Administration (HCAA) said.

The farmers, not to be outdone, hope to start again maybe even using a Boeing But "the decision rests

with the Hunan authorities". the Hunan aviation administration official said.

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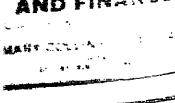
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ONESDAY APRIL .

CDC swells coffers with £46m sale in HK to Chinese

BY ROSS TIEMAN AND LULU YU

CIVIL servants at the Commonwealth Development Corporation have been putting their private-sector banking competitors to shame for years by realising healthy profits on investments in Third World infrastructure.

The CDC's latest realisation, of a 6.86 per cent stake in Hong Kong container terminal operator Modern Terminals Limited (MTL), is, however, by far its most spectacular to date.

The corporation, a littleknown British development bank, run by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, invested £2 million in MTL in 1971. Yesterday, it announced agreement to sell that stake to China Merchant Holdings for £46 million.

Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Co (P&O), the British shipping group, also said it would sell 8.1 per cent of its 23 per cent holding in MTL to China Merchant for £55 million. The deals are

significant both for the attention that they focus on the CDC, and for their signals about the pattern of Hong Kong's future development under China.

The CDC's windfall profit comes only a week before the Monopolies and Mergers Commission is scheduled to complete its first review of CDC operations since the bank was created in 1948.

The MMC report on the desk of the incoming foreign secretary will show that the CDC has generated a surplus every year since 1955. Almost uniquely among British pub-lic corporations, the corporation is allowed to keep its

Accumulated surpluses, access to cheap-rate loans set aside for government foreign aid, and the spur from the MTL realisation will this year enable the CDC to invest £200 million in Third World projects. Schemes to re-plant hardwoods to replace lost

Cadbury buys the Victory V brand

By JONATHAN PRYNN

CADBURY Schweppes, the by early summer and most of food and drinks group, is swallowing two of Britain's best known cough sweet brands.

The company is to pay £3.1 million to buy the Hacks and Victory V brands from the receivers of Alma Holdings, the Scottish sweet manufacturer that collapsed in February. The deal will give Cadbury, which produces Throaties and Zutes cough sweets, an 8 per cent share of the £68 million UK medicated confectionery market.

A spokeswoman for Cadbury said that the two acquired brands would initially be developed in the UK market, but their potential for overseas markets would also be assessed. Hacks already has a strong presence in the markets of south east Asia. The purchase price in-

V manufacturing equipment, which will be transferred from the Keiller factory in Dundee, and the Angus manufacturing facility, also in Dundee.

The Angus plant, which manufacturered sugar-coated sweets, has been closed since early last month. Production is expected to resume the 20 to 30 former employ-

ees are expected to be taken on by Cadbury. The deal leaves KPMG Peat Marwick, the receiver, still looking for buyers for much of the Alma group.

Factories in Glenrothes, Kirkcaldy, the rest of the Keiller factory in Dundee, and the Alma, Barker & Dob-son, Keiller, Bensons and Milady brand names remain

Keiller is the market leader in butterscotch, and Alma produced a range of novelty children's sweets including products using Master of the Universe and Batman char-

All production in the Alma factories has stopped and all but 115 of the company's 775 staff have been made redundant. Before going into rening at some £1 million a

Rod Owen, of KPMG Peat Marwick, said: "In the six weeks following our appointment we worked extremely hard towards a sale of the whole Alma Holdings Group, but it quickly became apparent that a buyer was not going to be found."

tropical forest, especially in poorer countries in Africa and the Pacific, are now an urgent priority, the CDC

In Hong Kong, mean-while, China Merchant, with 15 per cent, will become the second-largest shareholder in MTL, after the Wharf group, founded by the late Sir YK Pao, which owns 26 per cent.

Peking's expansion in Hong Kong in the run-up to the sovereignty changeover in 1997 has been rapid. Chinese firms have made numerous acquiitions in the colony, often using their political ties to go after blue-chip compai or contracts and franchises.

The Chinese have signifi-cant stakes in Cathay Pacific Airways, and telephone fran-chisee Hong Kong Telecom. They are also active in the property sector, taking over from the Japanese as Hong Kong's largest investors. As Hong Kong builds its multibillion dollar airport, Chinese contractors are competitive

China Merchant, the biggest shipping agency in Hong Kong, has long been interested in the territory's container terminals, which are operated by MTL and Hong Kong International Terminals (HIT), a subsid-iary of Mr Li Ka-shing's Hutchison Whampoa group.

Hong Kong has the largest privately owned container operations in the world, and is the second busiest port after Singapore. The outlook for the industry is excellent despite an American recession and falling exports because Hong Kong is the principal port for southern China.

Last year, the government granted MTL and HIT rights to develop a terminal, with the understanding that the two would find Chinese partners for the project. As HIT already has a major Chinese shareholder, China Merchant has been expected to team up with MTL

P&O, which acquired a secondary listing on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange last September, said yesterday that it wanted to release capital to expand in Hong Kong and the Far East. It also hinted at the formation of P&O Asia, to be head quarterd in the colony. Lord Sterling, the chair-

man, said "the welcome participation of China Merchant in Modern Terminals Ltd adds strength to MTL's commercial position. Such links further enhance Hong Kong's position as the key strategic centre for South China".



Better shape: David Jones, the chief executive, who reported improved annual results for Next yesterday

Next cuts a dash back into black

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

NEXT, the retail group founded by George Davies that crashed spectacularly 18 months ago, is on the road to recovery. Pre-tax profits of £12.3 million in the year to January, after a bottom-line loss of £448 million last time, have enabled the group to resume divi-dend payments.

The figures for last year were clean of 1990's exceptional and extraordinary costs of £429 million, which resulted from the excessive expansion of the mid-Eighties, the recession and property slump.

Next has survived by selling Grattan, its mail order

Germany for £167.5 million. Group pre-tax and pre-ex-ceptional profits reached rent vear £12.3 million after last David Jones, the chief extime's £7.2 million loss. Opecutive, said that since the erating profits were £11.1 million, against profits of £7.2 million, and the interest line has improved from a

charge of £14.4 million to a gain of £1.2 million. Turnover was £462 million, against £878 million. Last year's pension holiday. worth £1.5 million, is expected to continue.

Earnings were 3.08p a share, against a loss of 13.58p, and the dividend is 0.75p. Lord Wolfson of Sunningdale, the chairman, said Next anticipated being

able to recommend the pay ment of an interim and a final net dividend in the cur-

restructuring plan was introduced two years ago, the group has sold 100 stores, many of which were not trading profitably. An improvement in the cost base and product range led to a strong performance from the shops in the second half of last year. Second-half profits from the retail business were £9.1 million, compared with a first-half loss of £1.9 million.

Next resisted the urge to discount prices outside the sale period and Christmas

Next Directory were below the group's expectations but there were fewer mark-downs. The directory made profits of £4 million, against 22.6 million last time.

Club24, the credit business now being wound down, reduced gross debts from £185 million to £163 million. Of the £33.2 million provision, £23.2 million has been utilised and Mr Jones said he did not expect all of the remaining £10 million would be needed. Since February 1, retail

sales are running 7 per cent ahead of last year despite a cut in selling space. Directory sales are up 3 per cent. The shares rose 5p to 71p.

Meggitt expects boost

Meggitt, the specialist engineer chaired by Ken Coates. is looking forward to a spending spree by the Kuwaitis and other Middle Eastern countries as orders to repair damage done in the Gulf war are finally placed. The group, which saw pre-tax profits slip from £23.9 million to £23.5 million last year, is remains in acquisition mode even after the \$53 million cash purchase of Endevco Corporation, an American maker of transducers, pressure controls and sensors.

A final dividend of 2.6p makes a total increased 5.6 per cent to 3.6p. Mr Coates said the group was seeing an average of one company a day offered as an acquisition, of which perhaps one of two a week were worth following up. Tempus, page 22

Wardle steady

Operating efficiencies and a tighter rein on finances left pre-tax profits at Wardle Storeys little changed at £4.36 million (£4.29 million) in the half-year to February 29. The interim dividend is held at

Pegasus drops

Pegasus reports a 59 per cent fall in first-half pre-tax profits to £320.000, but is maintaining its interim dividend at 3.5p. Derek Moon, chief executive, said the fall was exaggerated by £272,000 of research and development

Dredging dips

British Dredging, the building materials supplier, is maintaining its dividend for last year despite a slide in profits. Pre-tax profits fell 28.4 per cent to £2.47 mil-lion. The final dividend is 4.8p, giving an unchanged

Losses cut

Bourne End Properties reduced its pre-tax losses to £1 4 million last year compared with £2.2 million in 1990. The total dividend is halved to Ip.

Laser buys

Countryside Properties has sold a 74,300 sq ft office development in the Chatham Dockyards, in Kent, 10 Laser Richmount, the enterprise zone property trust. Laser is paying £16.2 million for five a 3.4-acre site.

Baillie payout

Baillie Gifford Technology. which has made capital repayments since 1990, says further payments could fol-low from the sale of Redwood International to IMI. It is paying a dividend of 0.2p

Palace coup strips GM chief of power

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

ROBERT Stempel, chairman of General Motors, the world's largest car company, has been effectively stripped of his executive power and placed on probation in the biggest management shakeup at the car company since its founder was ousted 70 years ago.

The palace coup, staged by the independent directors. has pushed aside much of the top team and replaced Mr Stempel as head of the company's key executive committee with John Smale, a former chairman of Procter and Gamble and a GM director for ten years with a reputation for cutting bureaucracy. The

committee has full executive power, runs the company between the regular monthly board meetings and is able to take unilateral decisions on jobs and spending. Mr Stempel, aged 58, and

22 months into the top GM job, will remain as chairman and chief executive officer. But those close to the company believe his future is now in the balance. Promoted into the top day-

to-day executive slot is John Smith, aged 54, a vice-chairman and the man who has been in charge of GM's European operations, the only successful part of its car business. Out goes Lloyd Reuss, a hand-picked Stempel lieutenant who was in charge of

GM's North American car making operations, which lost over \$11 billion last year. Two months ago, when he

unveiled the worst loss in American corporate history. Mr Stempel said it would take some time to turn around GM. In a statement, the outside directors said that they wanted a "more aggressive" ap-

proach to cost cutting. GM lost \$4.5 billion last year and proposes to cut 74,000 jobs and 21 plants by 1995. Analysts now expect a major acceleration of this plan. Early last month, the credit

rating on GM's \$90 billion of debt was lowered by Standard & Poor's, the rating agency. The rating on \$20 billion of short-term commercial paper is still under Robert Eaton, Mr Smith's

number two, left the company last month to become heir apparent to Lee Jacocca at Chrysler. GM will announce figures

for the first three months of this year within the next two weeks. They are expected to remain in the red.

Losses at Waterford Wedgwood reduced BY MARTIN BARROW to carry out a study of costs which could herald more job losses in the Irish Republic.

WATERFORD Wedgwood reduced losses in 1991 but said that the market for its crystal and china was still being affected by recession. The Dublin-based group cut pre-tax losses to IRE2.7 million (E2.52 million) from

1R£21.4 million, in line with market expectations, reflecting lower interest charges and exceptional items. Losses were 0.73p a share,

reduced from 4.29p. Again, there is no dividend. Shareholders were given a warning that the adverse trading environment contin-

ued into the opening months of the current year. Bernard Somers, an acc-

ountant, has been appointed

Waterford reduced its Irish workforce from 2,900 to 2,300 in 1987, and the company said in its results statement that crystal workers had been put on short-time to reduce excess capacity Sales fell from IRE307.9

million to IRE292.1 million. The group has introduced a new range of crystal called Marquis. It is being made in Germany. Portugal and Yugoslavia.

The range is twice as profitable as the high-cost crystal produced at the Waterford factories in the Irish Republic.

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SHERWOOD Group, Brit- wood supplies most of the high ain's biggest sockmaker and street retailers, including Marks and Spencer, its biggest customer, and has a 20

Sherwood sees wood through trees

BY OUR CITY STAFF

Europe's largest lacemaker, has once again shrugged off the effects of the recession, reporting pre-tax profits for the year to end-December up 36 per cent to £14.5 million.

The company has achieved impressive profits growth since coming to the Unlisted Securities Market six years ago, and has more than doubled profits since 1988 during a period of slow growth and less consumer spending on

David Parker, the chairman and managing director, said there had been a trend during the past few years to make socks from healthier, but less long-lasting, natural fibres. The biggest growth market is that for character socks for children, he added. Sherwood has recently won the license to every one held. The final divisupply Disney character socks dend is increased to 7.5p, in the UK and at Euro making 11.4p for the year, a

per cent share of the UK mar-ket after its acquisition of Samuel Eden in June and Charles W Hall in January. The lace division, two thirds of whose sales are made overseas, also performed "exceptionally well," Mr Parker said.

Year-end gearing was 44 per cent, the first time it has fallen below 50 per cent since the flotation. Mr Parker said he hoped for a further reduction during the current year. He described prospects for 1992 as "very good."

The company has applied for a full listing, partly to "help attract a wider shareholder

It is also proposing a bonus issue of four new shares for Disneyland in Paris. Sher- 25 per cent increase.



Material gain: David Parker, head of Sherwood

PowerGen breaks mould on labour relations

BY LIZA DONALDSON AND ROSS TIEMAN

TRADE unions at PowerGen, the electricity generator, will today begin consulting the company's 7,000 workers on an agreement that could pioneer the biggest revolution in power industry labour relations since

nationalisation 43 years ago.

The breakthrough deal, tabled yes terday, envisages the end of national bargaining, a cut in the number of employee grades from 32 to 11, and salaries ranging from £10,000 to £40.000 being negotiated simultaneously around a single table by trade unions and management. Expected to be agreed by June 1, the deal will mark the beginning of the biggest decentralisation of national pay bargaining in the newly priva-

Electricity industry employers.

now divided into about 20 companies, have given the requisite 12 months' notice that they are withdrawing from national bargaining by January 31 next year. The move will affect 136,000 highly unionised employees. Among power industry workers, 82 per cent belong to a trade union, a far higher level than in the

private sector as a whole. PowerGen, chaired by Sir Graham

ble bargaining with its six recognised unions, to replace negotiations with

three separate groups; the

engineer/managers, manual and

clerical workers. The proposals also

Day, is seen as the standard bearer for the companies' bargaining agenda in the industry. The group is anxious to increase employee flexibility after an energetic efficiency campaign that has cut employee numbers 40 per cent in the past two years. The company is seeking single-ta-

envisage a single salary spine of 11 grades, replacing 32 national grades, and harmonisation of pay and conditions for white and blue collar workers. John Hart, personnel director of PowerGen, said the agreement would

remove artificial barriers to career progression. The deal will increase PowerGen's annual wages bill of £160 million to £170 million a year by 1.5 per cent. Employees will be offered a cash incentive of £400 each plus 2 per cent

the new contracts. Other features of the offer are a single pay date from next April and mon rules on overtime (more than 37 hours a week) and non-social hours. All pay cheques will be month-

Eddie Newall, chief negotiator for

manual workers at the GMB general

of basic salary as a reward for signing

union, the biggest among the workforce, said the deal would be put to members in a ballot. The GMB would recommend acceptance because the package removed barriers to promotion and improved terms. Nalgo, the white-collar union. is also recommending acceptance.

A number of electricity companies are likely to follow PowerGen's lead. A similar deal is being proposed at National Grid for the company's 6.000 employees, and at Manweb, with 4,600 employees. Nuclear Electric is looking for a single-table deal for its 12,500 workers. However, National Power, with 12,500 em-ployees, favours multi-table bargain-ing with the three traditional bargaining groups. Seeboard, with 6,000 staff, is negotiating a pyramid structure with five bargaining groups, performance-related pay and 150 managers on personal contracts.

SHARE prices managed to of the FT-SE 100 index being extend Monday's gains but closed below their best as market-makers began battening down the hatches ahead of polling day.

Instead it was left up to the pound to hold centre stage making impressive gains against the mark. The pound's performance also in-

Whitbread spent another nervous day after the news that it will be making write-offs of £37 million. The shares ended 4 12 p up at 363 p after touching 356p on reports that a seller was trying to unload 4 million shares. But with only 3.4 million traded, it looks as if he may have been forced to withdraw.

spired government securities. which ended with rises of almost £1 at the long end.

Conditions in the equity market remained thin with brokers reporting a virtual absence of retail demand. Market-makers were in no mood to take positions until after the election. The futures market made all the early running with the June series

used by dealers to hedge their positions in the cash market.

The FT-SE 100 index was up almost 17 points in early trading but was unable to maintain the momentum and closed 3.3 ahead at 2,404.2. A total of 433 million shares changed hands, a small improvement on the previous day's figure of 411 million.

There was selective support for those international companies regarded as partially immune to the political upheavels on the domestic front. Gains were recorded in Reuters, 14p higher at Ell.41, BOC Group 2p to 667p, RTZ 4p to 574p and Wellcome 18p to Ell.65, ICI also hardened 9p to

£11.58 despite a profit downgrading Hoare Govett ahead of first quarter figures expected on April 30. These should reveal pretax profits of about £200 million. Despite the downgrading. Hoare re-mains positive about prospects for ICI.

Hanson, which owns almost 3 per cent of ICI, firmed 212p to 215p ahead of a presentation for investors in New York. Hanson is seen as

360 340 SHARES RISE ON - 320 SPECULATIVE BUYING - 300 - 280 Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr

another company insulated from the political worries at

Waste Management International made an encouraging start to first time dealings in a conditional market. The shares were offered at 5° each by lead manager Me. nil Lynch valuing the entire company at £2.19 billion. It ended the session at 612p, a premium of 27p.

There was a flurry of speculative excitment in the bank-ing sector as Midland Bank rose 12p to 347p on overnight reports from the Far

East claiming the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank was ready to offer 411p a share. But the reports were later denied. Hongkong and Shanghai already owns 15 per cent of Midland and has plans a full merger. There were also gains for

Lloyds 4p to 359p, National er 5p to 270p, Standard Chartered 2p to 437p and Bardays in to 295p, while Royal Bank of Scotland eased 2p 152p. The oil sector was again a

bright spot as the two-way

pull on shares continued to

dominate sentiment. American investors have been big buyers of British oil companies in recent weeks. Further interest has also been generated by the heightening of tension in the Middle East which has boosted the crude price on world markets. Salomon Brothers and Schroder Wurtheim have both been buying BP, 22p cheaper at The rest of the stores sector

252p.

But British brokers and fund managers are less enthusiastic about the oil sector and remain sellers. Enterprise Oil firmed 2p to 398p and Shell 1p to 458p while Lasmo eased 3p to 195p.

Tesco, the supermarket

chain, climbed 4 2p to 255 2p after weighing in with full year figures exceeding even the most optimistic City forecast's. Pre-tax profits soared £109.3 million to £545.5 million with operating margins up from 6.8 per cent to 7.1 per cent. Sir Ian MacLaurin, Tesco's chair-man, said there were signs that the recession was drawing to a close with food sales recovering from last year's depressed levels.

Next, the fashion retailer,

celebrated a return to the black with a rise of 5p to 71p. The group reported pre-tax profits of £12.3 million against a loss last time of £40.7 million and expects to pay both an interim and final dividend. Sales, so far, this year are 7 per cent higher despite a reduction of 5 per cent in retail space.

Analysts are taking an encouraging view of long-term prospects for Thorn EMI, down 1p at 746p, with both County NatWest WoodMac and Baring Securities recommending the shares as a buy. County has downgraded its profit estimates by 4 per cent, but still expects the re-rating of the shares to gather pace.

also made headway encouraged by reports that consumer confidence was growing. Among those companies to show plus-signs on the day were Argos 3p to 234p. Bur-ton 1p to 37 2p, Dixons 6p to 196p. Kingfisher 2p to 463p, and Marks and Spencer 5p to 284p.

MICHAEL CLARK

NEW YORK

Blue chips weakened by early profit-taking

New York - Blue chips were weak in the late morning because of profit-taking and the effect of Japanese share losses. The Dow Jones industrial average dropped by 13 points to 3,262.49

☐ Hong Kong — Shares

staged a recovery in continued quieter trading as bargain-hunters took heart after Monday's rise that trimmed sharp, early losses. The Hang Seng index jumped 29.53 points to 4,926.43, while yesterday's turnover improved to HK\$1.77 billion (£131 million) from Monday's turnover of HK\$1.38 billion. Shares in HSBC Holdings, which was hurt recently by its planned merger with Britain's Midland Bank and its exposure to Olympia & York, the troubled property group, rose HK\$1 to HK\$39.25. HSBC Holdings is the parent company of the

Banking Corporation.

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☐ Singapore — Share prices edged lower despite selective bargain-hunting. The Straits Times industrial index fell 1.34 points to 1.385.73 in thin volume of 22.15 million shares against the 32.4 million shares traded on Friday.

☐ Frankfurt — Prices drifted down from their peaks, but still closed at their highest for nearly four weeks. The Dax index ended 4.80 higher at 1,739.42.

□ Sydney - The market closed stronger, but below its highs. It made big gains after overnight strength in New York and London and talk of a cut in interest rates. But Tekyo was again a negative influence The all-ordinaries index closed 6.0 points up at

TOKYO

Nikkei drops below 18,000 to five-year low

Tokyo — Prices plunged and the Niket index closed below 17,727.91. Turnover edged 18,000 for the first time since November 1986. The Nikkei ended down 644.82 points, or 3.5 per cent, at 17.791.55. Arbitrage unwinding and institutional selling battered prices as most investors retreated to the sidelines amid a continuing dearth of buying

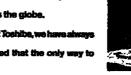
Amy Yip, of Baring Securi-ties, said: "People have a feeling of total helplessness right now. Sitting on the sidelines, they see the Nikkei hitting new lows. Most prefer to be late (for the eventual recovery) than attempting to play the

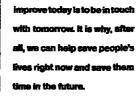
The Nikkei index fell to its lowest close since November up to about 200 million shares compared with 192 million on Monday. Declining issues outnumbered rises by nearly nine to one, with 895 lower. 100 higher and III unchanged. The market opened little

changed, but then index-selling began, driving the Nikkei index lower while foreign bargain-hunting, which was the market's main prop, largely evaporated. Banks extended sharp de-

dines amid continuing worries about reserve requirements and loans exposure. Fuji Bank slumped Y200 to Y1,270 and Mitsubishi Bank Y170 to 1,520.

WALL STREET





A train that can travel at 300mph? Next we'll be telling you our scanner can travel around your brain.



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DNESDAY APRILLE

COMMENT **Tories share** German burden **1876**

ohn Major's alibi finally appeared in Paris yesterday, although it may too too late to influence the jury. The OECD is preparing to cut its growth forecast for the world's main industrial countries as a whole this year because the recovery has, generally, been later in arriving than the organisation's economists expected. Norman Lamont, it seems, was not alone. Recovery will begin in earnest, but still slowly, in the second half, leaving the OECD's 2.2 per cent forecast for the year looking stranded.

Across the Atlantic, the IMF is predicting only 2 per cent for the world economy and for the European Community, rising to 3 per cent in Europe and 312 per cent in America in 1993, but Michel Camdessus, its managing director, has admitted that plenty of fund directors think that that takes an excessively optimistic view of next

In both cases, one of the key reasons for caution is the continuing high level of Germany's short-term interest rates. These are keeping interest rates excessively high in other ERM countries, where high government borrowing also limits potential to

stimulate the economy safely.

Jean-Claude Paye, the OECD's secretary general. has a picturesque way of rationalising this. It is, he suggests, a form of burden-sharing. "I consider German unification a historically important event, and one that is of benefit to us all, so it is not shocking and abnormal that a form of burdensharing, mostly through interest rates, is occurring."

Since all the main parties contesting tomorrow's election are committed to the ERM, they might sagely nod agreement. Former Conservative MPs defending marginal seats might choose a less charitable form of words.

Managing Waste

he message from Merrill Lynch, the American securities house handling the Waste Management International share issue, is that the mechanism of stabilisation tried out in last year's BT II issue and repeated here is the way flotations will work in future, so the market might as well get used to it. The system helps to ensure a stable aftermarket for all investors, but leaves the private investor not knowing quite what is hap-

Waste Management is not a complete rerun of the so-called "green shoe" used in BT II, in that the seller is not pledging to put up any extra shares that may be needed if the price rises. Instead, Merrill Lynch, as lead underwriter, will initially go short in its client's stock to meet oversubscription and buy spare shares that may come on the market as stags sell. The inherent risk will

doubtless be reflected in its fees. Stabilisation is the rule in American stock offerings and common in international issues, but it is barely known in the City. The Waste Management float has already required concessions from the Stock Exchange because of its curious hybrid nature, half placing and half tender offer.

The American house will not say by how much it will go short, or how long stabilisation will take place; it could last 30 days, but will most likely end earlier. Institutions trading on Seaq can find out from their trading screens, as with BT II, and will, therefore, know when it comes to an end. Private

Merrill Lynch says this is not a float aimed at the private investor. Too true, with stock being offered at more than 30 times' historic earnings. A chunk of shares is earmarked for the British retail market, but caution is advised.

Taxing UK's housing foundation to demolish the wider economy

Richard Jeffrey says that Labour's tax plans would cripple the house market and personal wealth to create a recessionary

spiral second to none

f a Briton's home is his castle, then Labour's personal tax proposals have to be seen as the most severe assault yet launched on its structure. The shadow budget would reduce the incomes of families below retirement age by more than £1.6 billion, equivalent to a half per cent decline in consumer spending. These are the families critical to financing Britain's housing market. Two thirds of households own their own homes, two thirds of these are mortgaged and the average mortgage is £48,000, costing about £400 per month net in interest. Mortgage payments there-fore take about 30 per cent of the average family's after-tax income.

You can argue it is right that those on higher incomes should pay a higher proportion of earnings in tax. And, you can argue that many of the defects that have become evident in our economy after 18 months of recession stem directly from mistakes made by a Conservative chancellor, between 1987 and 1989. But Labour's plans for personal tax threaten to have a much more damaging impact on the quality of family life than anything the Conservatives have done over the

Labour's tax proposals appear to hit only those at the upper end of the income scale — if not the super-rich. This is far from the truth. A relatively small proportion of taxpayers would suffer, but they are by no means only the rich; better paid, yes; rich, not necessarily.

A large proportion of this group have had the benefit of tax cuts, but they have also had to cope with the consequent asset price inflation. For many this has meant accepting an extremely high level of mortgage borrowing. Most have survived the recession up to now but only by cutting current expenditure and contributing to the recession. Even the more prudent are now living close to the margin and their ability to pay the tax increase that will be demanded by John Smith has to be questioned. Many more could be forced into defaulting on their mort-

gage payments.
When the economy is viewed as a static system, it appears that as few as 10 per cent of taxpayers are hit. The web spreads dramatically when the economy is viewed as a dynamic system - with dire consequences. It is not possible to isolate one section of the community and pretend that the damage done to its financial circumstances will not hurt the economy as a whole.

The increases in personal taxation



Trying out the driving seat: a victorious Neil Kinnock could deliver a heavy blow to the house market

suggested by Labour are way too severe to be implemented in one step - there is no shock absorber within the system to help damp the initial impact of the change. Even those who believe in the general philosophy behind the tax proposals, including many Conservative voters who felt the 20-point cut in the top tax rate in 1988 was too great, must accept that Labour's current tax format would have disastrous consequences. Because of the way the economy reacts to sudden changes. these consequences would be more savage than the overheating from the 1987 and 1988 Budgets. The economy has a greater capacity to absorb more demand than it has to

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adapt to less. The initial effect, at least, is clear. A proportion of the community finds the tax burden imposed on it is beyond its means, because, for many people, the cost of servicing a mortgage is the largest single outgoing each month and cannot be changed. Hundreds of thousands of such families will conclude that the only way to make ends meet is to sell and buy a cheaper house. In its current fragile state, however, the housing market does not have the capacity to absorb such an increase in supply.

particularly not at the top. The price of housing at the upper end of the market will collapse. The process will not be contained there. The housing market is a continuous system and the shock waves will move through the price range until the whole market has been affected.

In this economic cycle, we have already seen house prices fall 15 per cent or more in many areas. They could drop an additional 25 per cent. During this process, few of those who initiated the cascade will have been able to improve their finances. If they have been able to sell their homes, it is likely to have been at a big capital loss. The wealth of the personal sector will have

Just as the impact of higher taxes cannot and will not be contained in a small area of the housing market, so the shock waves will continue to spread throughout the economy. The resulting loss of wealth will hit confidence at a very sensitive stage of the economic cycle when morale is already at an extremely low ebb. Loss of wealth is, in particular,

bound to reduce household spending. It is debatable whether the fall in house prices seen to date has had much direct impact on consumpdiscretionary spending, making a further fall in consumers' expenditure unavoidable. The top 20 per cent of earners in the UK, who would either suffer from Labour's tax plans or receive no benefit. account for more than 35 per cent of household spending. Savers, who benefit from higher interest rates. tend to be older and to have a lower

find in household budgets already

stretched by the recession. For those who have also been penalised by

Labour's new tax regime, such

Faced with this squeeze on in-

comes, families will have to cut

amounts might be impossible.

marginal propensity to consume. Many retailers, already hit hard over the 18 months, will find this new dip in demand delivers a mortal blow. The shock waves will not stop here. Consider the construction industry and institutions that rely on property to meet their commitments. With the economy entering a severe second recession, there will be more unemployment.

Faced by a further decline in consumption, a majority of companies will attempt to pare back spending on plant and machinery to a bare minimum, rather than increasing investment in response to Labour's incentives. Wages will come under further pressure. Nor will government finances escape unscathed; falling activity in the economy will reduce income tax, VAT and corporation tax receipts. A Labour government might still be able to meet its expenditure commitments, but only by borrowing more at higher interest rates or by raising

There will be some good news. Ironically, for those sceptical foreign exchange dealers, the balance of payments would swing into surplus. Inflation would fall and could even turn negative. Automatic stabilisers might be expected to damp the impact on the economy. Unfortunately, recent experience shows this is not the case. The economy's reaction to tax cuts pushed through by Nigel Lawson up to 1988 illustrates that when given an unanticipated shock, the economy becomes ex-tremely unstable. Confronted with the opposite shock of sharply rising tax rates, the economy could be destabilised.

In the two years to the end of 1988, total domestic expenditure rose 13.5 per cent in real terms. about 8 per cent faster than the sustainable rate. The joint impact of Labour's proposed tax plans, a rise in the mortgage rate and a greater loss of confidence is likely to cut total domestic expenditure by a further 2.5 per cent before any recovery.

Instead of the spiralling inflation of the late Eighties, there will be a recessionary spiral. A spiral that will undermine personal sector incomes and wealth and which, when it is over, will leave the UK looking back on one of the worst periods in its economic history.

The author is head of research at Charterhouse Tilney, the broker

THE TIMES

CITY DIARY

Betting on the election LIFE - and the election -

looks different through the eyes of a bookie. Ron Pollard, of Ladbroke, the man who introduced political betting in 1963, was yesterday offering odds of 5:1 on a Labour victory, 3:1 against a Conservative win and 400:1 against a win by the Liberal Democrats. In the event of a hung parliament, he believes that both Major and Kinnock will stay on to lead their respective parties in the next general election, but if one party were to get an overall majority, he thinks that the leader of the other party would be forced to leave. As for likely successors, from Friday he will be offering odds on either Heseltine, Hurd and Clarke to replace Major, or Smith, Brown and Blair - "as an oursider" - to replace Kinnock. "Only one thing changes prices and that's money," says the inimi-table Pollard. "Opinion polls don't change them at ail." Not everyone, however, agrees with his judgment. At Ilpm on Saturday, Pollard was contacted at home about a Stoke-on-Trent man who wanted to place a £14,000 bet on the Tories getting a major-ity. "He must be mad." concludes Pollard. "But if he is right, he stands to win £142,000." And late yesterday, a London man wagered £20,000, also on a Tory win. "It's the biggest bet of the election," Pollard says. "The odds are altering. I offered him 11:4. He stands to win £55,000 if they win."

Tough near the top MANAGERS at Grand Met-



"It amazes me how they

the chairman, admits that he does not delegate. By way of explanation, he adds: "My people are too good to be delegated to. GrandMet attracts serious risk-takers, so I don't have to tell people what to do, they just get on with it." If they do not get on with it, he says: "It's more likely for a manager to be fired for not attempting to do something than for trying, doing it in a sensible way and getting it wrong. But obviously, if they make a habit of it, I'll attend their leaving party." It certainly is tough near the top.

Hunting heads

BRITAIN'S top companies are preparing themselves for an eventual economic upturn. Sir John Trelawny, of Goddard Kay Rogers, the execuhead-hunting consultancy that specialises in salaries of £60,000 plus. says business has increased by 26 per cent since August. He has also detected a trend in the specifications for chief executives away from the costropolitan are about to be cutting chartered accounwarned. In a radio interview tants and hatchet men, so to be broadcast on LBC this much in demand in the past evening, Sir Allen Sheppard. two years, to the marketing-

trained, business getters and business builders, more usually associated with boom conditions. "The demand is now for general managers, with the ability to grow busi-nesses, by acquisition and by opening new markets, rather than intensive care specialists," he says.

Brewin buyout AT THE height of Big Bang.

when American banks were paying absurd premiums for London brokers, few would have envied the partners of Brewin Dolphin, one of the largest. UK private client stockbrokers, who sold 75 per cent of their equity to the little known Scandinavian Bank. Four years on, and the picture looks different. While blue chip names such as Scrimgeour Vickers and Messels have lost their independence. Brewin Dolphin has reemerged intact as an independent broker, through a £6 million management buyout, announced yesterday. According to John Hall, its managing director, Brewin Dolphin, which has concentrated on private client business, no longer feels the need for a heavyweight backer. He adds that because partners were tied in by shareholdings

 they retained 25 per cent the firm still has its old partnership team in place. He refuses to say how the buyout price compares with what ScanBank paid, but insists that the Scandinavians have no grounds for complaint. They've not had a tremendous return," he says ambiguously, "but we've been pro-fitable throughout. By comparison with other people who bought securities firms. they've done pretty well." Sounds like Hall has done pretty well, too.

CAROL LEONARD | 43 Fetter Lane, EC4.

BUSINESS LEFTERS

Tax and the unpaid housewife

From Mr Gordon Nurse may choose, thus enabling them to decide on the most Sir, I refer to the letter from Mr Owen (Business Letters, April 3) commenting on the inequitable consequences of tax efficient formula for their particular circumstances.

Labour's tax proposals for the couple with two children where the husband is the sole earner with a net income of £35,000 compared with the couple with only one child where both parents are working and together earning the same amount to both the particular family and society in general of the Surely the solution is to

permit couples to opt to split the earnings of the sole earner between them. Better still, allow all married couples the right to apportion their total earned income between them

Consider London From Mrs B. Woodcock From Mr Robert Hurst

Sir, Although I applaud the candidacies of London and Frankfurt for the location of the proposed European Central Bank (April 3), the powers that be should not forget that one reason put forward for not locating the proposed Community Trade Marks Office (CTMO) in England or Germany is that we have the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and Germany has the European Patent Office. In other words, it would be unfair for one EC member state to host two European institutions.

I have always considered this to be a somewhat infantile argument; and we can but hope that the decision to consider London and Frankfurt as prime candidates for the European Central Bank reflects a new thinking on the part of the Council of Ministers to choose the best place for the job. Would the Council perhaps now like to consider London as a prime candidate for the CTMO?

Yours faithfully. R. A. HURST. DJ Freeman,

Lincoln's Inn, WC2. Bank charges

GORDON NURSE.

unpaid housewife.

Yours faithfully,

11 Old Square,

This would not only remove

the inequitable effect of a

system which will be made

worse if Labour's proposals

are implemented, but would

go some way to enable the

couples who wished it to give

tangible recognition to the valuable contribution made

Sir, My husband opened a small business account with National Westminster Bank in January 1991, with free banking for one year. In November last, we telephoned the bank and were informed the free period was extended to March 1992. We have now received a letter telling us charges will be applied from June, at £14 per

quarter and 99p per entry. In the bank's literature of December 1991, small business charges were £6 per quarter, plus 64p per entry. How on earth can the bank justify such increases when inflation is approximately 4

Our turnover was £32,000 last year, and the account has been constantly in credit by approximately £2,000. Is it any wonder the small businessman is suffering at the hands of such dictatorial actions? Can these rises really be

The bank's literature carries the slogan: "We're here to make life easier"!

Yours faithfully, BARBARA WOODCOCK, 24 Portland Close, Bedford.



tion, since it merely took the froth off

the market. A further 25 per cent fall

would cut housing values below

purchase prices for about a third of

homeowners, particularly those who

have bought most recently. To a

certain extent this will simply force

the market to stagnate; but for those

who have to move (either from fi-

nancial necessity or because of, say,

a change in work location), there will

be a one-off financial loss. Many of

the remainder will need to raise

savings to compensate for the fall in

house prices and the resulting de-

To this unholy mix must be added

the likely extra ingredient of a base

rate rise. The markets have already

shown their distaste when faced

with the prospect of a Labour gov-

ernment, driving sterling down to its

limits in the exchange-rate mecha-

nism. It is not unreasonable to unink

in terms of a 2 per cent rise in base

rates at some time after a Labour

election victory as the new chancel-

for has his nerve tested by foreign

exchange markets sceptical of

For a family with an average £48,000 mortgage, a 2 per cent rise

in the mortgage rate would raise

interest repayments by almost £65 a

Labour's record on inflation.

cline in their wealth.

United Friendly Group plc

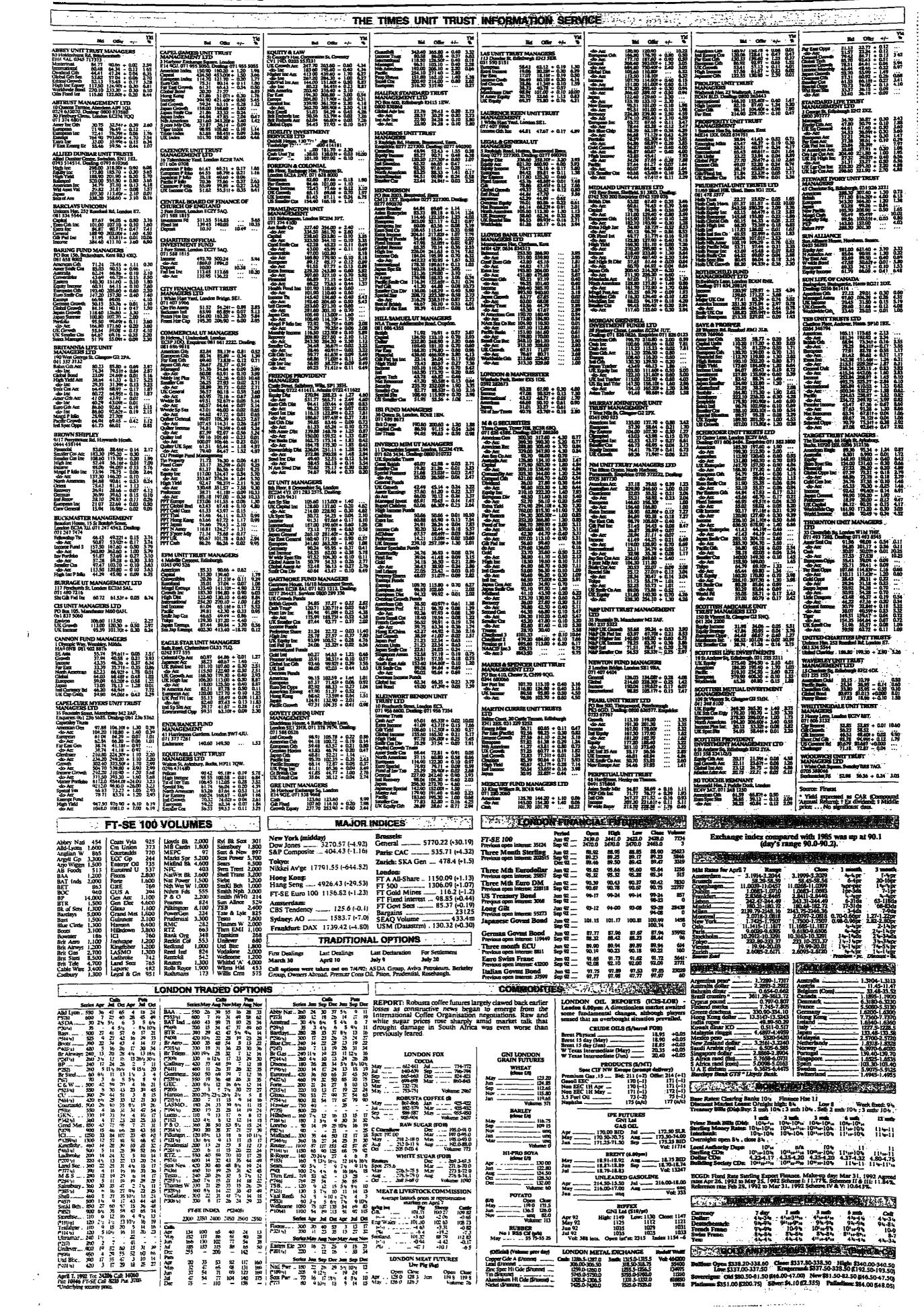
RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1991

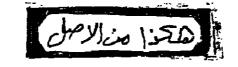
- Dividend for the year increased by 20%.
- After tax profits of £16.4 million up 13%.
- Life profits improve to £10.7 million up 15%.
- New life annual premiums of £20.6 million.
- General business underwriting loss improved to £4.0 million from £5.0 million.

	1991 £m	1990 £m
Premiums — Life — General	165.8 71.7	155.8 60.7
Life business profits	10.7	9.3
General branch underwriting loss	(4.0)	(5.0)
Investment income and other profits	13.4	14.5
Profit attributable to shareholders	15.6	14.5
Dividend per share	12.30p	10.25p
Earnings per share	20.20p	18.14p

The board recommends the payment of a final dividend of 8.10p per share to be paid on 29 May 1992 to shareholders on the register at the close of business on 8 May 1992. The notice for the annual general meeting to be held on 8 May 1992 and the 1991 annual report and accounts will be sent to shareholders on 14 April 1992. Copies of the annual report may be obtained from the Secretary.

United Friendly Group plc, 42 Southwark Bridge Road, London SE1 9HE Telephone: 071-928 5644 Fax: 071-261 9077





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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY APRIL 8 1992

Shares mark time Shares mark Portfolio PLATHUM From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it marches you have won outnight or a share of the daily prize money stated, If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when chaiming. Gamerules appear on the back of your card. Group Building Rds 2 Blue Circle 3 Assoc Br Ports Transport Foods an Transport Industrial Industrial Drapery,Sus 14 P-E Intern1 Electrical 18 City Centre Rest Moroes Air Building Rds 23 CRH 24 FR Group 25 Rank Org 29 Highland D BIR Electrical Oils. Gas 41 Marks Spencer Drapery Stra Two readers shared the Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. Mrs J.A. Wild, of Reading, and Mr Jude James, of Lymington, Hampshire, 1901/02 Price Ne Yid High Low Company (pt -/- div % P/E BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP 311 211 Abbay Nd 273 + 3 ... 5,1 8,6 185 126 ABcd linb 163 + 1 ... 5,7 11.9 60 27 Assheber 04) 26 ... 00 ... 199 : 119- Aus New Z 176 - 2 ... 5,0 13.4 2662 1218 Bankamerica 2368 † +25 ... 1734 1175 Bcd (Irenta) 143 - 1 ... 74 23.4 1950 1900 Bt Learni ted 1900 a ... 16.0 6.3 ... 1900 120 91 Bank Scotland 100 - 1 ... 5,7 21.8 1900 120 91 Bank Scotland 100 - 1 ... 5,7 21.8 489 285 Barday 295 + 1 ... 9,0 51.0 12 3 Benchmark 3 ... 13.9 120 13 Benchmark 3 ... 13.9 270 117 Brown Sthicky 137 ... 13.9 270 173 Brown Sthicky 137 ... 8,0 7.35 ... BREWERIES **BRITISH FUNDS** jux Yd Y los yid | 130°°2 | 110°°2 | Trees | 13'78 2004-08 | 124's | 90°°2 | 50 | Trees | 78' 2009 | 36's | 90°°2 | 88°2 | Care | 98' 2011 | 94's | 67° | 58°3 | Trees | 75'8 2013-12 | 53's | 87° | 76°4 | Trees | 75'8 2013-15 | 52's | 12°°2 | 11°°3 | Each | 12°8 2013-15 | 120°s + "10.87 + 34 9.29 + 34 9.54 + 34 9.41 + 3 9.41 + 3 9.93 9.97 9.65 9.64 9.60 9.67 9.67 SHORTS (under 5 years) SHORTS (mm 91% Trans 87 1992 91% Trans 10% 1993 94 Trans 87 1993 94 Trans 87 1993 94 Trans 10% 1993 101% Trans 10% 1993 101% Trans 10% 1993 101% Trans 10% 1993 101% Trans 97 1994 90% Trans 97 1994 90% Trans 97 1994 90% Trans 97 1994 90% Trans 10% 1994 10% Trans 10% 1995 10% Trans 10% 1995 10% Trans 10% 1995 10% Trans 12% 1995 10% Trans 12% 1995 8.32 ... 10.77 10.80 9.69 10.40 10.56 10.34 10.35 10.37 10.46 10.52 7.04 10.37 10.41 10.39 UNDATED 25% 24% 29% 59% 40% 35% Consuls 21/4 Treas 21/4 Treas 31/4 Control 31/6 Control 44/6 War LN 31/6 9,94 10,05 10,04 5,90 9,95 9,76 409 300° Anglian Water 316 407 327 Northambrian 34\$ 305 322 Northambrian 34\$ 305 322 North West 329 370 296 Scent Pura 305 397 293 Stam Water 304 392 302 South West 325 397 323 Thannes Water 329 422 341 Welsh Water 341 436 325 Wessen Water 378 431 335 Yorischie W 352 INDEX-LINKED THE FLAST 1994 Treat IL 29, 1994 Treat IL 29, 1994 Treat IL 29, 1996 Treat IL 29, 2001 Treat IL 29, 2006 Treat IL 29, 2007 Treat IL 29, 2011 Treat IL 29, 2011 Treat IL 29, 2010 Treat IL 29, 2010 Treat IL 29, 2010 Treat IL 29, 2010 Treat IL 29, 2014 1241-1301-1441-13811-1261-1261-1261-1064-1121-1071-1-8804 124 M₁₁ 115 M₁₂ 188 m₂₂ 168 m₃₄ 147 m₄ 137 m₄ 135 m₄ 135 m₄ 135 m₄ 135 m₄ 135 m₄ 128 m₄ 111 m₄ 105 m₄ 112 m₄ 112 m₄ 112 m₄ 112 m₄ 113 m₄ 107 m₅ 18 m₄ 18 m₅ 2.70 3.32 4.14 4.26 4.40 4.45 4.45 4.45 4.45 4.44 4.44 Source: Firstat • USM: # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend: ‡ Ex strip; † Ex rights issue: ↓ Ex all: • Ex capital distribution: of Figures or report awaried; ... No significant data.

Strong Approach to go one better

disappointments.

STRONG Approach, beaten two lengths by Hey Cottage on his last trip to Ascot, looks capable of going one better on his return to the Berkshire

course today. Trained by Alistair Charlton at Stocksfield in Northumberland, Strong Approach can land the valuable Bollinger Champagne Novices' Chase in the hands of Jamie Osborne, who also

rode him on his previous visit. Had Hey Cottage not been withdrawn overnight, he would have been meeting Strong Approach on 10lb worse terms. That suggests my selection is not badly handicapped even though he has 11st 8lb to carry.

A line through Hey Cottage appears to give him the opportunity to beat the in-form OK Corral, who has been a revelation since he started chasing as he was only a seller over hurdles.

Last time out at Chepstow. OK Corral beat Hey Cottage by one and a half lengths when receiving 12lb from

Yet when Strong Approach was beaten two lengths by Hey Cottage over today's course and distance they carried the same weight.

The fact that the in-form Buck Willow was only a length behind in third place

Brian Beel: 4.15 Fibreguide Tech.

2.15 ASTON MUNSLOW NOVICES HURDLE (£2,077: 2m) (18 runners)

1 4024 ARDCRONEY CHIEF 65 (D.G) D Gark

MANDARIN

GOING: GOOD

(£1,444: 2m) (20)

LUDEOW

2.15 Arabian Bold. 2.45 Grondola. 3.15 Plat Reay. 3.45 Mr Lion. 4.15 Kilfrancis Lad. 4.45 Terrible Gel. 5.15 Bramble Pink.

2.15 Arabian Bold. 2.45 What If. 3.15 Plat Reay.

3.45 Lava Falls. 4.15 Fibreguide Tech. 4.45 Terrible Gel. 5.15 Bramble Pink.

2 2PPD BAKHTARAN 11 (D.F) Mrs A King 5-11-9 M Lynch 3 0140 CELTIC CATCH 14 (D.F) J Bosley 6-11-9 M Bosley 4 0011 CREAM AND GREEN 26 (CD,G) K White B.T. D J Mortan (7)

C Liewellyn

SCIACCA 29F S Melor 5-10-11 ... P Niven

DEBT OF HONOR 48 K Bridgwater 4-10-10 ... A Webb

KELLYS KINGDOM 37 R Bennett 4-10-10 ... W Ederfield

LOUDEST WHSPER 21F K Endgwater 4-10-10 ... W Ederfield

D Bridgwater (3)

ORPEN 18 C Cowley 4-10-10 ... Judy Dawss (7)

S HOW THE FLAG 35 h Balley 4-10-10 ... A S Smith

WAR BEAT 37 P Bevan 4-10-10 ... T Wall

11-4 Arabian Bold, 7-2 Cream And Green, 9-2 Show The Flag.

12 5356 WHAT IF 11 (D.F.G) O Brennen 8-11-7 ... Helen Brennen 13 00PP STRIKE A CHORD 34 (B.D.F) Mics G Doter 7-11-4

20 OP44 PRIMA AURORA 11 C Brooks 4 105.....

7-2 Final Ace, 4-1 Prima Aurora, 9-2 Grondola, 6-1 Harry Lime

3.15 H R ATTWOOD MEMORIAL TROPHY HANDICAP CHASE (\$2,530: 2m 4f) (14)

1 4/1- ROYAL PAVILION 522 (D.G) Mrs F Walwyn 9-11-10

5 3911 LAKE MISSKIN 41 (CD.G) S Shewood 7-10-12
AS Smith
6 4223 SIKERA SPY 23 (D.F) Mrs A Hewn1 10-109 S J O'Neill
7 21-U JAY-ZEE BOY 19 (CD.F) J Bradley 10-10-3
8 04/P LOR MOSS 21 (D.F.S) A Leighton 12-10-3
9 2115 PEACEWORK 133 (D.F.G) Mrs G Reveley 8-10-3
P Niven

17 36P- CASH CRISIS 341 (F) A Barrow 12 10-0 N Hawke 12 5530 SOLAR CLOUD 70 (D.F.G.S) M Charles 10 10-0

Judy Dawes (7) 13 3/RP WORTHERN SAINT 13 (B,G) K Baley 9-10-0

14 4043 SMOOTH START 19 (D.F) A James 7-10-0 R Beltamy

5-2 Kissane, 7-2 Lake Mission, 4-1 Plat Reav, 6-1 Peacework

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mrs S Johnson, 3 winners from 6 namers, 50 0%, D Murray Smith, 9 from 23, 39 1%; Mrs G Reveley, 3 from 8, 37 5%, N Henderson, 7 from 22, 31.8%; M Pipe, 22 from 88, 25.0%, Mrs S Oliver, 7 from 28, 25.0%.

10 210F PURBECK DOVE 61 (D.G) Mrs H Parrott 7-10-0

2.45 CAYNHAM SELLING HURDLE

5 6441 JIMMY THE GILLIE 19 (CD,G) \$ Christian 6-11-9

PAY MANUFACTIVE AND would be another aptlynamed winner of the Trillium MICHAEL PHILLIPS Handicap Hurdle as the runup to the general election

that day suggests that there draws to its close. was nothing wrong with the Well as he won over today's course and distance 11 days form, even though Tinryland ago. I still prefer to be disloyal and Rough Quest, the market leaders that day, were and go nap on King Credo. who was to have been my best Since Norman Conqueror bet for another race on the same programme until an was also a let-down when tailed off at Cheltenham last injury to a foot necessitated time, Northern Jinks looks his withdrawal at the eleventh the pick of the remainder.

While King Credo failed to recover from that setback in time to take his place in the field for the Oddbins Hurdle at Aintree last Friday, he is reported to be fine again now by his trainer Steve Woodman and poised to carry on where he left off at Newbury last month, on a winning

Quick Opinion, beaten only a short head at Nottingham last time out, can go one better by landing the Fairview New Homes Novices Chase, thus completing a double for his trainer, Nicky Henderson, who is also taken to win the Lily Tree Novices' Hurdle with his recent Newbury victor, Golden

Blinkered first time RIPON: 3.00 Stag Might.



She was poised to win her

third race in succession at

Uttoxeter last time before

Following the victory of

capsizing at the final fence.

Party Politics in the Grand

National at Liverpool last

Osborne: reunited with Strong Approach

SIS

C Liewellyn

3.45 SARA HAMILTON-RUSSELL MEMORIAL TROPHY HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,250: 2m 5f) (20)

12 4404 HARD TO HOLD 33 (F.G.S) D Esden 9-10-5
Mr A Hambly
13 0026 CUILEANN 39 (F) D Deacon 7-10-4 ... I Shoëmark
14 0023 TRANSMIT 23 (F.S) M O'Ned 5-10-4 ... M Dwyer
15 0013 LOBRIC 19 (B.F.G) J Jenkins 7-10-3 M Ahem
16 3060 KINGHTS 6F (G) Mrs S Oliver 6-10-2 ... Jacqui Oliver
17 35P0 WINDSOR PARK 28 (C.F.) K Bridgwater 6-10-2
Mercrifith (7) 18 -PPF DUDLEY 54 (B,S) Mrs F Walveyn 9-10-0.... B de Haan 19 -003 COMMODITY BROKER 19 W Brisbourne 7-10-0

S Wynne (7) 20 0080 IMPECCABLE TIMING 28 (C,S) O C'Neil 9-10-0 4-1 Fleurcone, 5-1 Lobno, Mr Lion, 6-1 Leve Falls, 8-1 Hugli, Transmit, 10-1 Holt Place, 12-1 Hard To Hold, 14-1 others.

4.15 CHASE MEREDITH MEMORIAL TRO-PHY HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £1,171: 3m) (11)

1 3-0P BALLYNEETY 34 (S) Airs C Jansway 12:12-5 G Maundrell (7)
2 -810 FIBREGUIDE TECH 27 (D,F) Mrs T Kinsey 9-12-5
3 113/ KILFRANCIS LAD 728 (CD,BF,F) Mrs G Hanner (7)
15:12-5 Miss C Thomas (7)
4 38-4 SHACKIN BRIG 4 (B,D,G) T Wagstaff 15:12-5
S Charlton (7) 5 4F/P SMULLYAN 42 (F) R Bowes 10-12-5 — P Jentions (7) 6 S38.3 FIELDS MAN 4 (F) R Bowes 10-12-5 — W Bryan (7) 7 2523 FINAL SPRING 28 P Warner 8-12-0 ... J Pritchard (7) 8 PSF FREDDY FRECKLES 19 (B) R Winslade 9-12-0 p.

11 P-43 THE SCREAMIN DEMON 30 L Bowles 9:12-0 C Hancock (7) 3-1 Fatneguade Tech, 4-1 January Don, 9-2 Final Spring, 6-1 The Screamin Demon, 8-1 Kilirancis Lad, 10-1 others.

2.1,441: ZIII) (2U)

1. 2305 ANDRELOT 41 (V,D,G) K White 5.11-12 D J Moffant (7)

2. 0P50 EASTER RAMBLER 20 (D,F) R Benneit 10:11-9

Wilderfield

3. /005 EXPOUND 110 (D,G) C Smith 7:11-9

ABOUT HORCELLO 28 (CD,G,S) B Lewellyn 9:11-9

5. 0P00 HARRY LIME 28 (D,S) M Pipe 7:11-11 L Lewellyn (7)

6. 3320 JUST A MEMORY 26 (B,CO,F) C Trelline 5:11-9

7. U000 TAP DANCING 63 (D,G) J Alen 6:11-9 4.45 BUTTERCROSS NOVICES CHASE (£1,618: 2m) (16)

13 000P STRIKE A CHURU CHURU CHURUN C

2 F1F3 PLAT REAY 32 (D.BF.G.S) T Forsier 8-11-10
3 1P51 KISSANE 15 (D.G.S) C Broad 11-11-7 Martin Jones
4 365P HEADIN' ON 30 (D.F.G) Mrs P Joynes 12-10-13 T Wall
5 3611 LAKE MISSION 41 (CD.G) S Sherwood 7-10-12
A S Smith 5.15 MRS MUCK MARES ONLY NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£825: 2m) (18)

GLENCARAIG QUEEN D McCarn 5-11-8
Mr D McCarn (7) Jr

ULEINTHALL FOX 95 J Needham 6 11-6
A Flannigan (7)
OK SOHFAR G Charles Jones 5-11-6. Mr R Cole (7)
SOWBER GHOST P Beaumont 6-11-6. Mr A Farrali
DANTE'S DELIGHT O Sherwood 4-11-0
J McCarthy (7)
LADY MARIGOLD R Thompson 4-11-0 Mr A Deeprose
ULACCA PRINCESS 42 M Echley 4-11-0
SHARP AS A NEEDLE D McCarn 4-11-0
DJ Moffatt (7)

JOCKEYS Miss C Thomas, 3 women; I must 62, 62078.

JOCKEYS Miss C Thomas, 3 women; Irom 5 fides, 60 0%, P Niven, 3 from 12, 25 0%, N Hawke, 5 from 35, 14.3%, J Loader, 7 from 52, 13 5%; G McCourt, 5 from 43, 11.6%; C Uewellyn, 6 from 58, 10.7%. DJ Moffatt (7)
18 D THOR STONE 61 E Owen Jr 4-11-0 P Midgley (5) 7-4 Bramble Pink, 7-2 Danie's Delight, 5-1 Glencarag Queen, 7-1 Copper Beach Lady, 10-1 Donald's Sister, 12-1 others. RESULTS FROM TESTERDAYS THE MES

Pontefract

2.45 (Im 24 6yd) 1, Katy's Lad (T Quant, 7-1), 2, Superiop (15-2), 3, Taylors Prince (25-1); 4, Royal Accisim (14-1) Sharp Top 2-1 fav. 19 ran 2'04, 71 B McMahon Tote: 08.80; E1.60, C3-40, C5-30, C2.00, DF 084.00, CSF-£60.94 Tricast: £1,182.18 3.15 (6f) 1, Twilight Falls (N Connorton, 5-2 fav); 2. Chaptins Club (17-2); 3, Count Me Out (11-1); 4, Vinizen Music (12-1), 18 ran 3l, 1l, M Camacho Tote £4.50; £1.40.



result stood.
4.45 (2m 11 22yd) 1, Dodger Dickins (N Carisie, 10-1), 2, Carefree Times (25-1); 3, Tachcal Mission (11-1), 4, Yorkshire Holly (16-1) Cabochon 11-2 fav 20 ran. Nr., 3 H Hoffenshead Tote, £7.60, £1.50, £6.10, £5.20, £2.70 DF £213 90 CSF, £222.01. Tineset £2.543 80

Tricast: C2.543 80
5.15 (81) 1, The Old Chappel (T Culmn, 12-1), 2, Scarlatine (5-4 fsv); 3, Rurel Led (33-1) 17 ran NR- Base Petite 341, 44, 8
McMarton Tote: C19.10; C2.50, C1.60, C18 50 DF- £42.10 CSF: C2.907.
5.45 (1m) 1, Moesy Rose (J Heid, 8-1); 2, Errema (33-1); 3, Doulab's Image (9-1), 4, Veloce (16-1), Scoty Tem 7-1 fev. 21 ran, NR: Qualitair Rhythm. Hd, 1½L Lord Huntengdon, Tote: E9 90; £190, C11.80, C2.20, 55.70 DF: C310.20 CSF- E240.30, Tricss: C2.261 88.

2.30 (2m 4) 710vd hdle) 1. Shull Saor (R Guest, 33-1), 2. Jefferby (4-1), 3. Spoonhill

£28.46. Tricast: £210.14 Bought in 4,800gns

3.45 (1m 2f 6yd) 1. Torribon (W R Swinburn, 5-6 fav); 2. Starfight Flyer (4-1); 3, Kansk (4-1) 4 ran. NR* Secret Haunt II, 141. G Wragg, Tote: £1.90. OF: £3.10. CSF: £4.14

4.15 (5f) 1. Isotonic (K Fallon, 7-1), 2. Nominator (5-2 fav); 3. Reasons For Love (8-1) 11 ran. 341, 3f. G Moore Tote: £6.80, £1 60. £2 30. DF: £3.20. CSF: £25.93 After a stewards enquiry, result stood.

4.45 (2m 1f 22wn 1, Dorlost Dickins (N) bd

bid 4.00 (2m ch) 1. Roxall Clump (M Richards, 7-2 fav) 2. Sharpgun (10-1), 3. Palmards, 7-2 fav) 2. Sharpgun (10-1), 3. Palmards, 14-1), 12 ran, 21. 15f. K Beiley, Tote: \$4.60 E.230, £4.80, 13.70 DF, £25.00 CSF, £34.25 Theast £394.09 4.30 (3m 100yd ch) 1, Bertie Boy (Mr Wates, 5-2 fav) 2. Northumbnan King (5-1), 3. Rose-Lane (3-1), 11 ran, MR Rempart 2, 11-51 Mrs G Reveley, Tote £4.30 £1.50, £1.50, £1.50 CSF £1.50 E.50 (2m 44 110vd hdie) 1. Bellezza (G £15.02 5.00 (2m 4/ 110yd hdie) | Bellezza (G Moore, 25-1) | 2. Hackembuch (25-1), 3. Chinese Panither (33-1, Flying Speed 1-3 fav 14 ran, 151, 11. A Moore Tole, £46 £54 0 £70,£600 DF (winner or second with any other horse) £10.60 CSF: £469.26

Incest: £2.261 88.
Placepot: £617.30.

Southwell
Going: good to firm (chees course). good to soil thurdles)

2 30 (2m hdle) 1 Persian House (M Owyer, 12-1) 2, Wooduratner (7-4 fav) 3.

Dyfin (11-1) 12 ran NR, Isobar, UBa-witer %1, 31 Juefferson Tote £12 70.

£2.90 £1.20, £3.00 DF £19.30 CSF.

\$32.34 Tincast £2.29 12.

Placepot: £2.47 80 raced of £2.35 £2. Placepol £2,447.80 (pool of £2,315.53 carried forward to Ascol today)

MANDARIN RICHARD EVANS THUNDERER 2.00 Golden Arctic. 2.30 Quick Opinion. 3.05 SPRUCER (nap). 2.00 Golden Arctic. 2.30 Quick Opinion. 2.00 Copper Mine. 2.30 Quick Opinion. 3.05 Kilhallon Castle. 3.40 King Credo. 4.10 ROYAL 3.05 Strong Approach.
3.40 KING CREDO (nap). 4.10 Yellow Spring. 4.45 Wall Game. ASTRONAUT (Dap). 4.45 Wall Game. 5.20 Rosemoss. 5.55 Lewesdon Hill. 5.20 Winter Squall. 5.55 Do Be Have. Brian Beel: 4,45 Wall Game.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.00 COPPER MINE.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT

2.00 LILY TREE NOVICES HURDLE (£3,419: 2m 4f) (15 runners) BETTING: 5-2 Golden Arctic. 11-4 Copper Mine, 4-1 Vallinet, 10-1 Sunset And Vine, 14-1 Jan-Re, 16-1 J Brand, Keep Out Ol Debt, 20-1 Nickle Joe, 25-1 Arthur's Minstrel, Glen Lockan, 33-1 others. 1991: SPRINGALEAK 8-10-11 A S Smith (100-30) O Sherwood 17 ran

2.30 FAIRVIEW NEW HOMES NOVICES CHASE (£12,037: 3m) (22 runners) BETTING: 9-4 Queck Opmon, 4-1 Weish Commander, 11-2 Urtzen, 13-2 Queen Of Sparts, 7-1 Goodshot Rich, 12-1 Evenlode, 14-1 Calchapenny, Dunsbrook Lad., 16-1 Cythere, 16-1 others.

1891: ARCTIC BARON 6-11-8 N Dawe (25-1) Miss J Thome 13 ren

FORM FOCUS

BADIHAR second when fell 2 out in a 16-runner handicap chase at Wolverhampton (2m 4f, good) with by Colonel O'Kelly. DUNSBROOK LAD 4bt 2nd of 15 to O'terburn House in a novice chase at Uttoxeter (3m 2t, good), with CATCHAPENNY 245t 10 Came terms) 10 3rd and RAGLAN ROAD (same terms) 10 3rd and RAGLAN ROAD (same terms) 11 4th. WELSH COMMANDER 13rd 4th of 15 to Piotes in a novice chase at short head 2nd of 14 to Rio Harna in a novice chase at short head 2nd of 14 to Rio Harna in a novice chase at Notroplasm (2m 6t, good) of my. with EVEN-LODE 25f 4th, SILVERINO 594 4th of 7 to Mander's Selection: URIZEN

3.05 BOLLINGER CHAMPAGNE NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE BECT

BETTING: 8-1 Norman Conqueror, Northern Janks, Sprucer, Storm Alert, 10-1 Loch Blue, OK Corral, Strong Approach, 12-1 Emsee-H, False Economy, 14-1 Very Very Ordinary, 16-1 others 1991: KINGS FOUNTAIN 8-10-3 A Tory (8-1) K Balley 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

LIADETT beat Avensmouthsecretary 2I in a 6-runner novice chase at Ludlow (2m 41, good). NOR-MAN CONQUEROR beat Granvillewalerford 1I in a soft). Previously, beat Re-Release (10 in a 14-runner novice chase at Wordshury (2m 41, good) on peruitimate start.

Chepstow (2m 41, soft). NORTHERN JINKS in the lead when falling at the last at Uttoxeter (2m 41, soft). STORM ALERT beat Rich Nephrey (3 in a 12-runner stort). mate start.

LOCH BLUE beat Polygonum 4I in a 9-runner hunter
Jusse at Fakenham (2m 5t 110yd, good). STRONG

APPROACH 2I 2nd of 6 to Hey Cottage in a novice
chase at Ascot (2m 4t, good) OK CORRAL beat

Hey Cottage 11/si in a 5-runner novice chase at novice handicap chase at Lingfield (2m. good). VERY VERY ORDINARY beat Fiddle A Little B in a 12-runner meiden chase at Southwell (2m 4f 110yd.

COURSE SPECIALISTS JOCKEYS TRAINERS Mrs S Smith M Pipe Mrs J Pitman W A Stephens P Hobbs O Sherwood C Grant
Peter Hobbs
E Murphy
P Scudemore
J Osborne
G Bradley

THUNDERER MANDARIN 2.25 Two Times Twelve. 2.25 Field Of Vision. 3.00 Optical. 3.00 Chester Belle. 3.30 George Roper. 4.00 Rousitto. 3.30 Palacegate Episode. 4.00 Revif. 4.30 Fassfern, 5.00 Double Flutter. 4.30 Jack Button. 5.00 Deer Hunt. Our Newmarket Correspondent: 4.00 MESLEH (nap). 4.30 Jack Button.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT

2.25 EBF FOUNTAINS MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,406: 5f) (12 runners)

DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

3.00 DANBY SELLING HANDICAP (3-Y-O; £2,441: 1m) (20 runners) 3 - OO DANBY SELLING HANDICAP (3-Y-0; £2,441: 1m) (20 runners)

1 (13) 03500-0 80LD MOOD 16 (3 Mason) J Berry 9-7 Pat Eddery (2 (19) 4-33510 8ROTHEPILYAFFECTION 25 (R Holimshead) R Holimshead 9-7 M Humphries (7) (3 (16) 4-33510 8ROTHEPILYAFFECTION 25 (R Holimshead) R Holimshead 9-7 M Humphries (7) (3 (16) 4-3350 REACH FOR GLORY 182 (R Whitaker) R Whitaker 9-8 A Culharne (4 (11) 006- CLASSIC EXHIBIT 125 (D Sulharni A Hub 9-4 W Rysen (5 (19) 20000- LYN'S RETURN 174 (R Sempson) R Smpson 9-4 A Tucker (5) (6) 30300- LYN'S RETURN 174 (R Sempson) R Smpson 9-4 A Tucker (5) (7 (12) 02000- HOT PUNCH 218 (Mrs C Calver) P Cawer 9-2 S Peris (8) (17) 530003- FUTURES GIFT 166 (T Mershelli A Ports 9-2 A Proud (9) 450050- LADY RANDOLPH 182 (Campbell 1 Campbell 9-1 J Wesser (7) (1) (4) 450050- LADY RANDOLPH 182 (Campbell 1 Campbell 9-1 J Wesser (7) (1) (1) 02006-0 LIFT 80Y 188 (J Bianch) Denys Smith 9-0 B Rouse (1) 10 4000-06 PHIL-MAN 11 (N-s M Mortey) T Fartursi 8-13 J Farting (3) (1) 3 (2) 05000- EUROTWIST 172 (W Swiers) T Barron 9-12 Alex Greeves (1) (1) (2) 00000- CHESTER BELLE 188 (J Astbury) P Histor 8-12 N Gwilliams (5) D Nicholis (1) (1) (1) 0505- MURANYS ROSE SS (I Mis W Carter 8-12 N Gwilliams (5) D Nicholis (1) (1) (1) 0505- MURANYS ROSE SS (I Mis W W Carter 8-12 N Gwilliams (5) D Nicholis (1) 0000- STRATFORD LADY 25 (Statitord Homes Lich J Glove B-12 D Nicholis (1) 0000- STRATFORD LADY 25 (Statitord Homes Lich J Glove B-12 D Nicholis (1) 0000- STRATFORD LADY 25 (Statitord Homes Lich J Glove B-12 D Nicholis (1) 0000- MURANYS ROCKET 211 (Widnes Racing Cub) M O'Nail 8-9 A Masclay (1) 20 0000- STRATFORD LADY 25 (Statitord Homes Lich J Glove B-12 D Nicholis (1) 0000- STRATFORD LADY 25 (Statitord Homes Lich J Glove B-12 D Nicholis (1) 0000- STRATFORD LADY 25 (Statitord Homes Lich J Glove B-12 D Nicholis (1) 0000- STRATFORD LADY 25 (Statitord Homes Lich J Glove B-12 D Nicholis (1) 0000- STRATFORD LADY 25 (Statitord Homes Lich J Glove B-12 D Nicholis (1) 0000- STRATFORD LADY 25 (Statitord Homes Lich J Glove B-12 D Nicholis (Greaters (5) 86 D Nicholis 82 L Chemock 699 A Mackey 83 P Bowe (7) 93

1991: UNASSUMING 8-8 Dean McKeown (4-1) Mrs J Ramsden 17 ran 3.30 ROECLIFFE STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,488: 5f) (3 runners) 3 (1) LOCAL MEROINE (Mrs L Meylan) J Berry 8-6 . .
BETTING: 4-6 Palecegate Episode, 9-4 George Roper 4-1 Local Heroine
1991: CERTAIN RISK 8-8 R Perham (5-2) R Hannon 5 ren

BETTING: 4-1 Optical, 9-2 Bold Mood, 5-1 Akura, 6-1 Kick On Majestic, 8-1 Phil Man, Stag Night, 10-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAINERS Winners Runners Percent JOCKEYS 29.4 29.4 29.6 26.6 20.0 19.8 S Caurthen
Pat Eddery
M Roberts
R Cochrane
L Dettori
W Ryan 46.2 40.7 20.0 18.5 17.1 16.9

BBC1 3.40 TRILLIUM HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,425: 2m) (7 runners) 401 3-18433 PEACE KING 11 (D.F.G) (Lady Brown) G. Harwood 6-12-0
402 15-0111 KING CREDD 19 (D.G.S) (G.Gornal') S. Woodman 7-11-12
403 1-3322P DERAB 57 (B.D.BF.S) (Mrs. E. Brown) S. Sherwood 6-11-5
404 250000 OLYMPIAN 27 (B.D.BF.S) (Mrs. E. Brown) S. Sherwood 6-11-5
405 131113 VA LUTE 12 (D.F.G.S) (A Taylor) P. Nicholis 8-10-2
406 621361 MISTER MAJOR 11 (CD.G) (B. Peay) G. Balding 4-10-8
407 024331 RED RING 20 (D.S) (D. Cromber) J. Webber 5-10-4
RETING: 7.4 Kun Credo 7-2 Chambers 6-1 Derab 8-1 Deade Kinn, Va Lufe 10-1 A Fitzgorald (3) 97 R Guest 97 W Marston (7) 93 BETTING: 7-4 King Credo, 7-2 Olympian, 6-1 Derab -8-1 Peace Fing, ValLute -10-1 Mister Maio: Rest Rect 1991: MIOFIELDER 5-11-1 C Maude (9-4 fax) P Hobbs 10 rat:

FORM FOCUS

SIS

PEACE KING 17I 3rd of 8 to Ftakey Dove in a handreap hurdle, over course and distance (good). Better effort previously when 5I 3rd of 5 to Galaxy High in a handreap hurdle at Newbury (2m 100yd) good). KING CREDO completed a trebis when besting Elegant Stranger 8I in a 5-turner conditional godeys' handreap hurdle at Newbury (2m 100yd good). Better effort of the property of the pro

4.10 ALPINE MEADOW HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,893: 3m) (18 runners)

1991: PIPERS COPSE 9-11-11 M Perreit (4-1 lav) G Harwood 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

MR GOSSIP 44 4th of 31 to My View in Coral Golden Handicap Hurdle Final at Cheftenham (2m 11, good), with TAMARPOUR (2b) better off) 191 51th end ROYAL SQUARE tailed off 19th. Previously, neck 2md of 12 to Legal Beagle in a handicap hurdle at Liverpool (3m 11, good to soft) YELLOW SPRING beat Dark Hone, 2 and 3 7 runner Newbury (3m 120yd, good), with TAMARPOUR (3b) better off) 791 6th.

ROYAL SQUARE tailed off 19th. Previously, neck 2md beat Dark Hone, 2 and 3 7 runner and Lecester (3m) 15 15.d good) with SEA BUCK (1lb) better off) 51 3rd CIMA head 2 and of 20 to Dark Hone, vin a handicap hurdle at Newbury (2m 4f 120yd, good) on penultimate start, with SEA BUCK (7lb worse off)

Selection: CIMA

4.45 MAHONIA HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £3,184: 2m 4f) (14 runners)

BETTING: 9-4 Wall Game, 4-1 Relekto, 9-2 Poppets Pal. 7-1 Knockumshin, 8-1 Goodlooking Bird, 10-1 others 1991: JOHN SAM 10-12-1 A Farrani (9-2) G Peniold 11 ran

	EBF WILD BOAR NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE	
IV I: 12,41	31: 2m) (20 runners)	
2	ATTIC WIT 686 (A Gardiner-Hill) R Holder 6-11-6	D Matthews (7)
2 2	DEEPENDABLE 32 (Mrs P Sherwood) N Henderson 5 11 6	P Thompson (7)
6	FATHER RALPH 522 (M Dawes) D Gandolio 6-11-6	D Meade (7)
	KANO WARRIOR (D Jones) J Edwards 5-11-6	Mr A Davis (7)
5 0	MARYLAND FARMER 12 (A J & R G Barber Ltd) P Nicholis 5-11-6	M A Fitzgerald (3)
5 52	RAINBOW CASTLE 122 (Miss J Semple) J Gillord 5-11-5	P Hide (7)
,	SEA SEARCH (R Bootle) N Henderson 5-11-6	R Milner (7)
3 (SILENT BRAVO 22 (A Blackmore) A Blackmore 5-11-6	Mr G Marrow (7)
	TURNING TRIX (M Davies) S Sherwood 5-11-6	Mr J Durkan
)	IRISH LIL (Mrs J Smith) M Smith 5-11-1	Mr A Weish (7)
	KOULOURA 32 (E Darke) Mrs J Relier 6-11 1	Mr A Darke (7)
	ROSEMOSS 18 (Mrs D Jenks) M Proe 5-11-1	M Fosier (3)
3	TIMES ARE CHANGING (Mrs J Breese) D Wintle 5-11-1	W Marston (7)
ι	JOHN'S WAGER (K Hygson) A Moore 4-11-0	_
5	LLES LE BUCFLOW (J Smith) F Jordan 4-11-0	T Protheroe (?)
5 02	RED BEAN 26 (B Thrift) J O Donoghue 4-11-0	A Drcken (5)
, (TOM'S GEMINI STAR 18 (T Staddon) W Williams 4-11-0	
3	WAR COUNSEL (A Budge (Egume) Ltd) Mrs D Hame 4 11-0	C Huggan (7)
•	WINTER SQUALL (Mrs S Robins) Mrs J Pitman 4-11-0	Lee O'Hare (7)
3	CASTLE ROSE (J Sheeten) D Shaw 4-10-9	<u> </u>
	Rosemoss, 4-1 Deependable, 6-1 Kano Warnor, Winter Squali, 8-1 S	

1991: MR JAMBOREE 5-11-6 Mr G Johnson Houghton (9-2) R Johnson Houghton 18 ran

5.55 EBF WILD BOAR NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (Div II: £2,441: 2m) (18 runners)

M A Fitzgerald (3) —
B Clifford (3) —
M Foster (3) —
R Greene (5) — O- MR HAPPY FEET 329 (Mrs S Switer) A James 5-11-6
OSCEDIA (M Bryant) S Woodman 6-11-6.
RECEIVE DOUBLE (J Frampton) Mrs S Waliams 5-11-6.
O SCRIVEN BOY 64 (BP) (Mrs J Howell) J Edwards 5-11-6.
SOUTHERLY GALE (Lord Donouphrone) N Honderson 5TIP TOP LAD (Mrs E Boucher) D Grissell 5-11-6.
WANDERLINE (A Sumner) C Tretline 5-11-6.
O WHISKY RYE 18 (J Morton) S Sherwood 5-11-6...
DO BE HAVE (D Walker) Mrs J Pitman 4-11-0...
DO BE HAVE (D Walker) Mrs J Pitman 4-11-0...
LANGLANDS LAD (D Lockyer) M McNall 4-11-0.
PLAYING THUANT 12 (D Monn) D Gandotto 4-11-0.
GAELIC CHARM (Mrs P Boynton) J Chaillon 4-10-9.
MISS MONZA (J Farwick) Mrs D Hane 4-10-9. P Hide (7) ---Mr R Davis (7) —
P Thompson (7) —
Mr P Hacking —
P Davies (7) — Mr J Durker S Curran (7) Lee O'Hare (7) A Farmer (7) BETTING: 11-4 Martell Boy, 4-1 Do Be Have, 9-2 Southerly Gale, 6-1 Major Bush, 7-1 Scriver Boy, 6-1 gifters 1991: HAZEL CREST 4-10-7 W Owan (13-8 fav) Jimmy Fitzgerald 19 ran

4.00 GREWELTHORPE HANDICAP (£4,537: 1m 2f) (17 runners)

1 (8) 112410- JALMUSIQUE 207 (C,P) (Mrs J Palister) M H Easterby 6-10-0 ... M Birch 2 (7) 52/1- MESLEH 372 (6) (A Maintourn) J Gooden 5-9-8 ... S Cauthen 3 (17) 13011-6 CROSSILION 75 (D,BF) (G Wragg) G Wragg 4-9-3 ... F Norton (5) 4 (3) 4/11308- NO SUBMISSION 180 (D,G,S) (P Warren) C Nelson 6-9-2 ... J Fleid 5 (12) 52/11- GREEN MEDINA 24S (D,G) (B Burrough) M Bell 4-9-0 ... M Halls 6 (15) 0/4620- REVIF 183 (S Corman Ltd) A Steward 4-8-7 ... M Roberts 7 (10) 0/24620- REVIF 183 (S Corman Ltd) A Steward 4-8-7 ... M Roberts 7 (10) 0/24620- REVIF 193 (S Corman Ltd) A Steward 4-8-7 ... M Roberts 7 (10) 0/24620- REVIF 193 (S Corman Ltd) A Steward 7-8-6 ... R Cochrama 9 (14) 33343-0 VAGUE DANCER 19 (D,F,G,S) (K Wheldon) Mrs J Ramaden 6-8-3 ... A Murror 10 (13) 00000-4 FOX CHAPEL 11 (F,S) (A Budge Ltd) Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-8-2 ... M Huttl (7) 11 (2) 32000-0 MARDESSA 20 (D,F,G) (G Lee) F Lee 4-8-2 ... Paul Eddery 12 (18) 062400- AZUREUS 25J (P) (J Mardoch) Mrs G Reveley 4-8-2 ... J Lowe 13 (9) 00020-5 SURREY DANCER 11 (D,G) (Cronk Racing Ltd) B Hanbury 4-7-9 Jaid Houston (7) 14 (11) 082310- TOUCH ABOVE 175 (D,F) (Mrs J Hazel) T Barron 6-7-7 ... J Fenning (3) 15 (4) 460045- ADMIRALTY WAY 11 (D,G,S) (C Murphy) M O'Nell 6-7-7 ... A Mackey 175 (5) 0/3430- LATOSKY 18J (Mrs J Teylor) J Norton 4-7-7 ... J Cartisia

Long handicep: Admirels Seat 7-6, Admirelty Way 7-5, Latosky 6-12.
BETTING: 9-2 Mesteh, 5-1 Revif, 6-1 Rousitto, 7-1 Vague Dencer, 8-1 No Submession, Jaimusique, 10-1 Green Medina, Admirelty Way, 12-1 Surrey Dencer, Touch Above, 14-1 Crossillion, Mendessa, 16-1 others. 1991: MARGS GIRL 4-8-0 J Fanning (8-1) T Fairhurst 8 ran

4.30 STUDLEY ROYAL HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £3,096: 1m 4f 60yd) (18 runners)

cap: Noble Vienna 7-6, Mayo Mari 7-6. SETTING: 7-2 Romenah, 9-2 Fassiern, 5-1 Jack Button, 6-1 Lady St Lawrence, 8-1 Holiday Island, 10-1 Eisherh, 12-1 Thor Power, Tricycle, 14-1 others.

1991: JUST MY SILL 59-7 J Lowe (15-2) J Hetherton 15 ran

5.00 SPA WELTER MEDIAN AUCTION GRADUATION STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,480: 1m 1f) (19 runners)

SETTING: 4-1 Nicely Thanks, 9-2 Cultured, 5-1 Inner City, 11-2 Double Flutter, 6-1 Port in A Storm, 7-1 Deer Hunt, 8-1 Buzzarde Belibuoy, Jeto, 10-1 Lieblity Order, Basherneh, 12-1 Marchen, Useldit, 14-1 others. 1991: MALIBU MAGIC 8-2 A Cruz (5-1) J Eustace 10 nan

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THE EXCUPE ner in wh on the Di attiā w Settled : en, Arazi a enered pas ine buck st ing icit-nat min the le 3c0-metre (avourite n out of seco บระร รมออก ∙on and : after ridu corse" for nubile was He like: irmed, or won Amen

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REBECÇA Staffordsh voted dome

the year at season. for the main d British Ope at Lambs yesterday b anne Maci lia, 9-7. 🖟 minutes. Poole, agr icy, broke d ed Achilles ary's nation after an imp but for Edg In Mond

ing round, on the inju Daniela G many, the v in the fifth day dismis with increas

Arazi passes first test with flying colours

FROM RICHARD EVANS IN PARIS

THE dream lives on. At sunny Saint-Cloud yesterday. Arazi resumed where he left off at Churchill Downs on Breeders' Cup day by win-ning with an ease and style which suggests he could become a racing legend.

Despite being only 60 per cent fit, according to his trainer, Francois Boutin, the world's top juvenile last year showed that operations to two knees and five months off the racecourse have not dulled his brilliance or speed.

Admittedly, the seven horses which he bear on his seasonal reappearance in the Prix Omnium II are probably not exceptional, but the manner in which he demolished the opposition, combined with the post-race remarks of Steve Cauthen, Boutin and joint-owner Allen Paulson, should make the heart of the racing world beat faster

Settled in sixth place early on, Arazi and Cauthen shimmered past two horses down the back straight before turn-ing left-handed and sweeping into the lead just before the 300-metre pole. The 5-1 on favourite never needed to get out of second gear as he won on the bridle by five lengths.

Cauthen is not a jockey who uses superlatives without reason and so his assessment after riding the "wonder horse" for the first time in public was fascinating.

He likened Arazi to Affirmed, on whom Cauthen won America's triple crown in 1978 — the greatest compliment he could pay.
"I have ridden a lot of good

horses but this is the first horse I would start to compare with Affirmed, and he is the best horse I have ridden.

"Potentially, he has got the scope to be a great horse. He is so exciting. With most horses, you know their limitations. This horse is unlimited at the moment. You can't say how far he could go. He could do



Boutin: confident of more improvement

Katy's Lad on course

THE horses-for-courses system provided the answer to the Barbican Handicap at Pontefract yesterday with Katy's Lad making all the running, partnered by Richard Quinn.

The five-year-old, winning for the third time on the Yorkshire course, is a proven performer when fresh and has now collected three times on his seasonal debut His trainer, Bryan McMahon, getting off the mark for the season with the 7-1 winner, had offered the mount to Willie Carson, but he sided with the favourite Sharp Top,

who finished fifth. Quinn, returning from a bout of influenza, which forced him to miss Wolverhampton on Monday, seized the initiative when nothing else wanted to make the running and was never in

Arazi and Cauthen predicted that "barring bad luck, he should win." He is a best priced 5-4 with William Hill, and that could prove generous in three weeks' time. "I am not saying the American horses are a bad bunch, but I don't know of anything

The Kentucky Derby, on

May 2, is the next stop for

that stands out. He showed that he could do it last year. I would love to ride him in the Kentucky Derby but I unfortunately won't unless Pat Valenzuela gets sick." if — and it remains a big if

Arazi then goes for the Derby at Epsom on June 3. Cauthen is confident he will handle the unique course's slopes and undulations. Ladbrokes offer evens with a run, while Corals offer 3-1 without the provision and 4-1 against an historic Derby

"I have seen all sorts of horses come round Epsom as as they are travelling well," Cauthen added.

Paulson, who sold 50 per cent of Arazi to Sheikh Mo-hammed for around \$9 million before that stunning success in Kentucky last November, clearly wants the horse to go for the triple crown. "American racegoers will crucify me if I don't go for it," he said.

The three races - Kentucky Derby, Preakness Stakes and Belmont Stakes carry a \$5 million bonus, put up by one of Paulson's

However, he knows that Sheikh Mohammed is equal-ly keen to win the Epsom

classic for the first time. Sadly, while Cauthen, Boutin and Paulson went out of their way after the race to help dozens of racing journalists from both sides of the Atlantic, no-one from the Sheikh's highly-paid entourage could be bothered to

make an appearance. Boutin, speaking through the winter the horse gained in strength. He had a long time off and I was a bit worried about him after his operation, but in the last two weeks he has shown himself to be how he was before. Despite the worries he has come through very well. After this race he will improve another 30 per

Saint-Cloud details

Going: soft
PRIX OMNIUM II (Beted: 3-Y-O colts: \$12,333: 1m)
1, ARAZI (S Cauthen); 2, Supermec (D Boeuf); 3, River Majesty (C Asmussen).
ALSO HAN: Volens (4th), Star Beem (5th), Ounter Bell (5th), Aldko (7th), Carson Bey (5th), 8 ren. NR: Take Resta. F Boutin. 5I, 2bil, Vil. 48, 51, 81. Pari-mutuel (to 1ff state); 1.20; 1.10, 1.10, DF: 5.20. 1mm 48.00 sec.

August. Daly's deeds, on and off the

It was reported that he had forgot to sign his card. If Daly wants to throw \$50,000 on a spin of roulette wheel, that is his prerogative;

if he wants to drink a beer or two, or more, it is his choice; and if he gets tangled in a paternity suit, as he did, that

pion, and as a player who has captured the imagination of all of the United States, he does have a duty to be prepared to play to the best of his ability at all times and to conduct himself in public in the manner besitting a

Arnold Palmer, whose name is synonymous with in-tegrity, said: "John Daly is a man who set the world of golf on its ear last August. I hope he knows and understands how much responsibility has been put on him by his win-ning the PGA championship

in the manner he did. "He can do so much for the game; maybe more than any of us have ever done or ever

hope to." Daly has no need or inten-tion of changing his style of play. "I'm still going to grip it and rip it," he said. "Why change? It's got me where I

"As for the Masters, it's always been my dream to play here although, realistically, I don't think I have that good a chance of winning."

Jack Nicklaus, who has ar-

ranged to play his final practice round with Daly today, disagrees. He said: "You couldn't have ever had a golf course made for a man's

right to left; that's how he how to hit it high; that's how he hits it. He doesn't have to learn how to hit it far, that's

What he might not possess

Comparisons with Nick-

chance to talk to Jack about how to handle all the things going on off the course. I can tell you right now, I'm not going to be a clone like half the guys on tour. If I became a clone, you might as well

"It's my life. I know how to enjoy myself but I think



SPRING dawns deep in the heart of The many flowers and trees Dixie with the coming of the Masgrown by the Berckmans, the family ters (Mitchell Platts writes). The from whom the land was purchased in 1931, were planted along the fairways laid out by Dr Alister Macazaleas are ablaze, a kaleidoscope of pink, white and yellow, the dog-woods are in full bloom and the kenzie, the renowned Scottish golf course architect. The names of the fragrance of the magnolias spices the air at Augusta National. holes, such as Yellow Jasmine, Fire Thorn and Tea Olive, were taken Such joy to the eye should come

AUGUSTA NATIONAL

HOLE YARDS PAR

TOTAL 6905

HOLE YARDS PAR

from the flowering plants or trees.
Yet Augusta National is not simply a horticulturist's delight. It is a
course of dreams, drama and deas no surprise because the site that Bobby Jones, arguably the greatest golfer who ever lived, chose for his course was formerly a nursery.

mands. To be the Master golfer is to earn the respect of your peers. To become the Master golfer means unravelling the intricacies of a layout that has mesmerised many more than have mastered it. Yawning bunkers wait for the er-

rant shot; Rae's Creek guards the 12th green; and water extends from just in front of the 16th tee all the way down the left side to the green, which slopes towards the hazard. The tees (3sin), the fairways

Nothing is left to chance. The 12th green, surrounded by trees, is difficult to maintain. So in 1981 an underground heating and cooling system was installed to keep the soil temperature of the green at a

nessed only by those privileged to own a ticket. The Masters was first sold out in 1966; the waiting list was closed 12 years later with 5,000 names. It is calculated that the last person on the list will need to wait 50 years to get in.

Daly must clean up his act in Augusta

FROM MITCHELL PLATTS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT, IN AUGUSTA, GEORGIA

JOHN Daly will test the ingenuity of officials if he becomes the 56th winner of the coveted green jacket here on Sunday.

I radinon is a dyw Masters and the first obligation of the new champion is to be interviewed on live tele-vision by the chairman of Augusta National. The problem is that Frank Chirkinian. the head of CBS golf, is furious that Daly unered a fourletter word in a live interview earlier this season. "Don't expect to see the guy

interviewed on CBS until he cleans up his act," Chirkinian said. "I'm not subjecting viewers to that kind of stuff." It has been that kind of year

for Daly. He has led a rollercoaster existence since he went from minor to major by winning the United States PGA championship last

course, have been well documented. His casino losses at Sun City were reputed to be \$30,000 (about £17,000) more than the \$90,000 he was paid.

a drink problem. In Jamaica, he signed for the wrong score in the Johnnie Walker world championship and left early with \$50,000 for his troubles. At the Australian Masters, he game more than Augusta is for John' Daly. He doesn't have to learn how to play

how he hits it. Those are the things you need at Augusta.'

Daly can open his shoulders at Augusta and smash the ball a mile. He can reduce par fives, like the 13th and 15th, to a drive and an eight-

is the science to survive on and around the most severe greens in the world. If he does, the Masters title might be his, and that would mean everything.
"I'm the kind of guy who

lives in my heart," he said. "Money is just paper. If hav-ing a heart is being rich, then I'm rich."

laus are inevitable. "I've heard them already and it's the craziest thing," he said.
"What I would like is the

take a gun and shoot me.

people expect too much of me. I'm still learning."



Practice makes perfect: Woosnam, the defending champion, tries out his putting at Augusta

Woosnam offered timely tip

FROM MITCHELL PLATTS

IAN Woosnam's preparation for the defence of his Masters title has included a lesson from Phil Ritson, a teaching

After three disappointing tournaments in the United States, Woosnam considered bringing over Bob Torrance. who has coached him for

several years. Instead, he searched on his own for a clue to the problems with his swing until Ritson strolled past, studied the 5ft 4 bin Welshman and stated his opinion.

"lan was turning his right knee in and down on his swing." Ritson said. "He was reverse tilting on the way down but he's now rotating. He looks good. He's happy.

It will be a step forward if Woosnam can stand on the first tee tomorrow in the right frame of mind. He has said that making the halfway cut will be a challenge.

Woosnam, however, should be inspired by the occasion.

"There is a lot of prestige being the defending champion," he said.

"I feel good about that and about having been there

"It's easier once you've won

a major. There was a lot of pressure on me last year because I hadn't won one and people were saying I should

SQUASH RACKETS

Poole shows fluency to reach main draw

BY COLIN MCQUILLAN

REBECCA Poole, the young Staffordshire professional voted domestic dub player of the year at the end of last season, forced her way into the main draw of the Hi-Tec British Open championships at Lambs Club in London vesterday by defeating Marianne MacDonald, of Australia, 9-7, 9-3, 9-4 in 36 minutes.

Poole, aged 21, from Rugeley, broke down with suspected Achilles problems in January's national championships after an impressive league de-

but for Edgbaston Priory In Monday's first qualifying round, still moving stiffly on the injured leg, she beat Daniela Grzenia, of Germany, the world No. 28, 9-1 in the fifth game, but yesterday dismissed MacDonald with increasing fluency.

Singa Macfie and Janine Leatherbarrow were other home players to claim early main draw places in the women's championship yesterday, but qualifiers from the 200strong men's field were far more widely based.

Only Danny Meddings, of Surrey, carried home colours through the qualifying stage, beating Billy Haddrell, of Australia, 8-10, 1-9, 9-2, 9-7, 9-3, in a magnificent 89minute fightback.

RESULTS: Men: C Wepnick (SA) bt L Buit (Nath), 8-1, 9-5, 7-9, 9-1, D Flyan (Iro) bt P Carter (Eng.), 9-3, 9-5, 9-6; M Carlyon (Aus) bt S Frenz (Ger.), 9-8, 9-8, 9-8, 9-7; D Meddings (Eng.) bt B Haddrall (Aus), 8-10, 1-9, 9-2, 9-7, 9-3; C van der Wark (SA) bt D Webb (Eng.), 9-6, 9-7, 9-4, Womer: R Poole (Eng.) bt M MacCondid (Aus), 9-7, 9-3, 9-4; D Sammers (Neith) bt S Downhall (Eng.), 9-0, 9-4, 9-3; N Beumer (Neith) bt C Mett (Eng.), 9-5, 3-9, 4-4, 8-9, 10-8; S Macrie (Eng.) bt S Fellon (Eng.), 9-7, 9-3, 9-7; J Leetharbarrow (Eng.) bt P Anderson (Eng.), 6-9, 9-6, 9-4, 5-9, 9-7.

Rivals are ready to join forces

THE International Squash Players' Association (ISPA) may absorb its north American counterpart, the World Professional Squash Association (WPSA), in a move that suggests the international softball game has finally achieved precedence over the hardball version that has survived in isolation among American clubs and colleges (Colin McQuillan writes).

The annual meeting of the ISPA in London yesterday heard that talks initiated by the WPSA would almost certainly result in a takeover of staff and assets by the end of the year.

Jahangir Khan, the world No. 1, has resigned as the chairman of ISPA and has been replaced by Mark Maclean, of Scotland.

Surrey hold on to title

NETBALL

despite Law's efforts

By LOUISE TAYLOR

SURREY retained the English Counties League Trophy by beating Essex Metropolitan 59-55 in a final staged at Earls Court as part of the Ideal Sports Show. It proved a thrilling finale to the season, with Essex Met pushing Surrey all the way, largely thanks to the contribution of the substitute goal-shooter. Lorraine Law.

Cheshire and Humberside were relegated to the second division, with Hertfordshire and Kent promoted. It is a quick return for Kent, who were demoted last season. Derbyshire and South

Yorkshire dropped to the Orchard Sports Centre, third division, completing a rapid fall for South Yorkshire, a first-division side two years ago. Mid-Hampshire and Nottinghamshire replace them, while Worcestershire to their under-21 title.

FINAL FIRST DIVISION TABLE

and South Durham trade places with East Dorset and Shropshire, who are promoted to the third division. Netball will stage its ver-

sion of football's FA Cup with the Evian inter-counties tournament at Anerley, south London, this weekend. More than a thousand players will compete at senior and under-21 levels on 17 courts at The where Surrey will be aiming to complete a double by successfully defending the trophy they won a year ago. Middlesex will be hoping to hold on

VOLLEYBALL

Europe is a doubt for champions WOOLWICH Brixton, hav-

ing clinched their second

women's first division title in the Royal Bank of Scotland English League in three years, have indicated that it is unlikely they will take up their place in the European Champions' Cup next season (Roddy Mackenzie writes).

"Unless someone comes in and gives us additional money, we won't be playing in the European Cup," the Brixton coach, Jefferson Williams, said after his side had completed an undefeated league programme in which they conceded only four sets.

Brixton's 15-13, 15-10. 15-4 victory over Brittania Music on Sunday came after they had trailed 7-0 in the opening set. Julie Bond's serving eventually tied the match

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Barclays League First division Coventry v Sheffield Wed (7.45)... Liverpool v Wimbledon.....

FOOTBALL

Norwich v Arsenal (7.45)...... Southampton v Nortm Forest Second division Leicester City v Sunderland (7.45) Millwall v Swindon (7.45)......

Third division Peterborough v Bournemouth GM Vauxhall Conference

Boston Utd v Telford B and Q Scottish League Premier division

St Johnstone v Aberdeen St Mirren v Celtic First division Meadowbank v Montrose

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: President's Cup: Benop Aucidand v Stalybridge Premier division: Accrangion Starley v Fleetwood First division: Farsley Ceffic v Harrogate. Winsford v Newtown, Congleton v Gurseley

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division; Atherstone v Chelmstord; Corby Town v Dantord. PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Barnsley v Leeds (7 0). Bradford Flothernam, Newcastle v West Bromwich (7 0) Second division: Back-pool v Notis County (7.0); Gninsby v Hull (7.0), Huddersfield v Derby (7 0), Middles-brough v Woiverhampton (7 0), Port Vale v Burnley (7 0), Wigan v Scunthorpe (7 0).

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: Oxlord Utd v Millwelt; Reading v Swindon (2.0) BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Pramier division: Bray Wanderers v Cork City (2.45), St Patrick's Athletic v Bohe-mians (6.15)

NORTHERN LEAGUE CUP: Sem-final: Peterlee Newtown v Consett. First di-vision: South Bank v Billingham Synthonia, Whickham v Blyth Spartans

CLIFTON STOCKBROKERS LEAGUE:

Plymouth Argyle v Cheffenham VICTORY SHIELD UNDER-15 INTER-NATIONAL: Wales v Northern Ireland (at Ahondda, 1.30pm). **RUGBY UNION** Representative match

England Students v Scotland Students (at Northern RFC) OTHER SPORT BOWLS: English netional championships (Melton Mowbray). BOXING: Commonwealth super-middle-weight championship Henry Wharton (York, holder) v Rod Carr (Aus) (Leeds Town Hats)

SPEEDWAY: Gold Cup: First division: Poole v Arens Essex (7 45). Second division: Long Eaton v Stoke (7.30).

SOUASH RACKETS: Hi-Tec British Open (Lambs Club, London)

Support increased for Norster and Davies

Welsh rebuild to give players a stronger platform

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

McLean, Ron Waldron and

John Ryan, makes up the

committee, "will have the au-

thority to make decisions

quickly".

There is little doubt that

Norster and Davies have

been persuaded by the

union's prompt action, as

well as by the players them-selves, to remain in position.

There is clearly a commit-

ment that the structure will be put in place and that will

relieve the burden I was wor-

ried about carrying," Davies

There has already been in-formal discussion about gathering information on opponents Wales will meet

during the next three years.

"We have included a substan-

tial amount in the technical

department budget to keep ourselves aware of what is

going on in other parts of the world," Young said.

possibility of sending mem-

bers of the national manage

ment team to Australia this

summer, when Scotland and

New Zealand are on tour

there, given that Australia are

Wales's next international

he could not take on the team

manager's role without the support of his employers, Chartered Trust, and that his

career with the finance com-

pany will be effectively on

hold over the next three years.

Davies, who runs his own

marketing and leisurewear

company, is moving lock, stock and barrel from Not-tingham to Wales. Like the

Norster acknowledges that

There is, for example, the

ROBERT Norster and Alan Davies, now confirmed as team manager and coach to Wales up to the 1995 World Cup, will find themselves the focal point of a completely revamped management structure designed to restore Wales to the plateau of international rugby, rather than the valleys the country has occupied of late.

The Welsh Rugby Union (WRU) general committee meets tomorrow for the second time in eight days to discuss elements of the development plan drawn up by Jeff Young, the WRU's tech-nical director. The first phase of Young's plan, already apstructure directed by a new national player development committee, accountable to the union's general

The most important facet Young, once an international hooker, has identified is the use of playing resources: the need to identify the most talented players and develop their skills for the benefit of the national side, reviving thereby public enthusiasm for the national game.

'We needed a national player development committee with the necessary expertise and authority to plan, direct, evaluate and monitor all the administrative. organisational and technical elements associated with the effective performance of nat-ional senior squads," Young said. "The great thing is to have time available during the domestic season to prepare squads properly.

'Part of the forward plan-

AN INTERVENTION by

the African National Con-

gress (ANC) shadow minister

for sport, Steve Tshwete, has

broken a deadlock over visas

for six South African players

who have been invited to play

for the World XV as part of

the New Zealand rugby un-

While Tshwete was in Australia and New Zealand for

ion centenary celebrations.

integrating representative and club fixtures." Already the new committee recognises the benefit of a Heineken League with divisions formed of no more than ten clubs, as it is now, rather than as it will be next season, enlarged to expressed the hope that there divisions by 1993-4.

A complete representative programme has been drawn up for senior, development and under-21 squads, each with its own management team. As in Australasia, the team manager will operate in an organisational capacity, leaving selection and coaching to three other individuals. A four-year rolling cycle will take the national side on an important tour at two-year intervals, the development squad on an annual tour and B and under-21 tours at apropriate intervals.

The player development committee will have its own budget and, in the words of Denis Evans, the WRU secretary, who, with Young, John



development agencies at the heads of the valleys, they are hoping to restore a smile to the scarred face of the land. ANC puts end to New date causes problems

By Peter Bills

said that a decision on the Springbok badge will be taken this month. But in New Zealand. George's letter caused such concern that the rugby footbali union chairman, Eddie Tonks, met the prime minis-

the cricket World Cup. Mluleki George, the chaircan players without the apman of the National Olympic proval of an ANC official. and Sports Congress (Nosc), Nothing moved until the sporting arm of the ANC. Tshwete picked up the phone and provided the required guarantees for the visas to be wrote to the governing bodies of Australia, New Zealand, France and England demanding a ban on the Among the South African

visa deadlock

planned tours to and from the players to be invited is Naas Botha, the stand-off half. He claimed the develop-Simon Poidevin, the Austrament programme launched lian flanker, has also been asked to join the party. by the South African Rugby Football Union (Sarfu) last

Brian Lochore, the coach of the world team, which will weekend was a smokescreen play three games against New Zealand, said the two to provide cover for the international aspirations of the had been approached after George also said that the Michael Lynagh, of Austra-Springbok badge would cease lia, and Peter Winterbottom, to be the symbol of South of England, withdrew. African sport, and would be

Lochore has secured the Scottish scrum half, Andy Nichol, in place of his original choices from England, Dewi Morris and Richard Hill. The three matches are in Christchurch, on April 18, Wellington, on April 22 and Auckland, on April 25.

team, with Fast Polisher.

Davidson, the winner of the

world championships in

chairman, Sam Ramsamy,

SENIOR Harlequins, who had hoped to have a complete break over the Easter holiday period, will decide this weekend whether to play in the rearranged match with Orrell on Easter Monday which could settle the Courage ter to explain the background to the problem, and the New Clubs Championship.
"All our players feel very Zealanders were unwilling to issue visas to the South Afriaggrieved they have been put

in this position." Simon Halliday, the England wing, said. "Some of us had looked forward to going away, espe-cially the England players who have had such a long, hard season. But we don't want to be accused of throwing a match because we couldn't be bothered to turn up. It is unfair to have dumped us with the problem.

Halliday says they recog-nise their obligations to Bath and Northampton, Orrell's only challengers, but that the decision will probably be made on the basis of how the club wishes to plan its build-up to the Pilkington Cup final on May 2. The players may feel that as most of them will be returning to London any-way later on the Monday for work the next day, to return a few hours earlier might be the right decision in terms of ensuring Orrell get a stiff



Plaatjes seeks recognition

By DAVID POWELL

MARK Plaatjes would pre-fer not to be running in the ADT London Marathon this weekend. He would rather be in Columbus taking part in the United States trial for the Olympic Games. But he was granted political asylum in the US a lew months too late.

"We were given various assurances by the American authorities that he would be declared eligible for the trial, but nothing has come of that," Glenn Latimer, his Columbus's loss is

London's gain. Plaatjes, whose quickest run is 2hr 08min 58sec, only two minutes outside the world best, is ready to unleash a quick

"Sunday will be my Olym-pics, I suppose," he said. "I am probably in the best shape I have ever been." Long shot though it is, Plaatjes has not thrown in the Olympic towel yet. South African-born but now stateless while awaiting US citizenship, he has asked

CHRIS Palmer, John

Thurlbeck and John Leeman,

of the Stanley club, Durham,

advanced to the final of the

Manchester Unity EIBA tri-

ples championship at Melton

Mowbray yesterday. They de-

feated Tony Manton, David

Wade and Andrew Hunter,

of Kingsthorpe, Northamp-

ton, 21-16 after all but losing

Kingsthorpe's first scoring

end produced five, and they

cut Stanley's lead to a single

shot going into the seven-teenth, at which they dropped three. That enabled Stanley

to play a defensive eighteenth.

Stanley's opponents today

will be Ray Gaskins, Gary

Harrington and Ted Hang-

er, of Brackley, Northamp-

tonshire, who beat Alan

Lines, Gerry Smyth and Steve Halmai, of Paddington, 17-9 in a semi-final drawn out to

In the quarter-finals Stan-

five hours by burnt ends.

a 14-0 lead.

BOWLS

Stanley hang on to

reach triples final

By GORDON ALLAN

Oflan Cassell, the executive director of The Athletics Congress, the US governing body, to explore whether he might run under the International Olympic Commit-

The former Soviet athletes are competing under the flag and I do not see why I cannot." Plaatjes said. "I qualify for three reasons: I have political asylum, I am stateless and I have made [qualifying]

He sees an impressive victory in London on Sun-day as his last chance. "It is a wonderful opportunity to get some people to ask some questions," he said. "Maybe that would get the IOC to think about it."

The International Ama-teur Athletic Federation did, after all, change the qualifying time to accommodate Gelindo Bordin and Steve Moneghetti. "At the Winter Olympics there were people on the rostrum listening to the Olympic anthem, with the Olympic flag flying." Latimer said. "Why could not the precedent apply to Mark?"

ley survived a tense high-scor-

ing contest with Desborough,

Maidenhead, skipped by

Peter McGuinness. Scores of

six, five and four helped Stan-

Ray Gaskins, Gary Har-

rington and Ted Hanger, of Brackley, were in good form

against Thamesdown, while

Paddington were too strong for Erdington Court.

The pairs championship

began last night with Gary

Smith, of Cyphers - the win-

ner last year with Andy

Thomson — teaming with Brian Vickers while Thomson

Also in the field are Terry

Scott and Davie Webb, of

Gateshead, the champions

RESULTS: Triples: Quarter-finals: Erdington Court (\$ Thomes) 11, Paciding-ton (\$ Heimes) 12; Thamesdown (M Biggs 8, Brackley (E Henger) 20; Kingushorpe (A Hunter) 20, Preston (W Hayward) 10; Stanley (J. Leeman) 24, Desbraugh, Maldenhead (P McGuirness) 20, Sami-

plays in Australia.

two years ago.

ley win 24-20.

set in 1985. Plaatjes ran two good marathons last year, winning Los Angeles in 2:10.29 and finishing second in Berlin in 2:11.01. He has been running the circuit since early in 1988, when he was granted political asylum but, because he is serving a five-year wait for citizenship, he cannot

compete for the US until

next year. The irony is that

South African athletes may now compete in the Olympics before he does. "He was granted asylum based on persecutions and threats to his life in South Africa," Latimer said. He had refused to toe the line of the South African Council of Sport (Sacos), the radical mixed-race body favouring the retention of sanctions. "Sacos was arguing that athletes like Mark

should give up their athletic careers for the cause," Lati-Being a runner has saved Plaatjes's life, and is now helping to keep his brother

alive. Once, on national

when a mob mistook them for strike-breakers. "They were going to necklace us." Plaatjes said. In other words, put a rubber tyre around them, douse them in petrol and set them on fire. We probably ran a 3:30 mile to get away." Last year he learned that

his brother, who brought him up, had cancer. Since then he has spent \$20,000 of his earnings from running on treatment. "They only gave him five months to live and that was March last year." Plaatjes said.

Plaatjes lives with his wife and two daughters in Boulder, Colorado, the alti-tude training home of many a distance runner. Among them is Britain's Steve Jones, who has benefited from Plaatjes's services as a physiotherapist and trains Favour not returned.

Jones holds the London ourse record at 2:08.15. "I had supper at his house on Friday and he did not give me any tips." Plaatjes said. Jones evidently believes that the man with no passport is flying.

strike day, he was training with a friend near Soweto.

BRIDGE

Forrester favoured in Paris challenge

BY ALBERT DORMER

gratifyingly high number. have been invited by the European Bridge League (EBL) to contest a new championship, the Generali Individual. in Paris next month. The field includes Omar Sharif.

enge is Tony Forrester. He is considered by many to be this is based on performance with regular partners, notably Andy Robson, who is also

Sally Horton will be strongly fancied to carry off the women's prize. Other British invitees who passed the EBL's rigorous master-point criteria are Nicola Smith, Sandra

Leading the British chall-Europe's strongest player but

Landy, Tony Sowter and Roman Smolski.

Some observers consider that individual tournaments may be the wave of the future. Players faced with a new partner in each round have no

SEVEN British players, a time to discuss elaborate systems, so simple methods hold

> This is seen as raising interest in top performers at grass roots level, which at present is at a low ebb because of impenetrable bidding systems

> In addition, it is harder to cheat in an individual contest. With Fr250,000 (£25,000) to be won in Paris. this has to be a consideration. In two recent championships, however, the Bermuda Bowi in Tokyo and the North American championships in Pasadena, what is a nightmare for the organiser arose, namely the use of secret

Bridge players wishing to contest the pro-am on the final day in Paris, May 15, are invited to contact the British Bridge League secretary, Anna Gudge, on 0787-

higher among the foreign

teams competing at this

French pre-Olympic regatta

to qualify for the British

match-race selection finals,

which are scheduled for Poole

He and his crew could dis-

but this second poor result

SPORTS MEDICINE

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Council grant will help clinics

By JOHN GOODBODY

THE new National Sports Medicine Institute (NSMI) is to establish an accredited network of regional clinics to improve the quality of service in Britain. Greg McLatchie. the first medical director of the NSMI based at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, said yesterday that a number of established centres would be used and pumpprimed with funds for

The Sports Council is allocating more than £300,000 this year for sports medicine and a 200 per cent increase over 1991-2, some of which will go on extra equipment and facilities at selected centres. However, it is hoped that local medical authorities or hospitals will invest in sports clinics when they realise how. in the long term, these could be cost effective.

There will be at least five regional centres: in the North East at Hartlepool. Durham and Sunderland; in Liverpool; in the capital, using the flourishing set-up at the London Hospital: in Cardiff, where the Welsh secretary has agreed to provide funding; and probably in Nottingham. Each centre will have slightly different priorities and many of the existing sports injury clinics in NHS hospitals could act as satellites to these regional centres.

This will certainly bring some order to the chaos that exists in British sports medicine where there is no overall strategy despite the excellent work of individuals and clinics. Each regional centre would have formal links with the local university or polytechnic with a laboratory accredited by the British Association of Sports Science. This would provide the necessary academic backing and a place for research.

The NSMI is to ask the national governing bodies and local health authorities for their requirements. Sporting organisation will almost certainly put a priority on quick and effective treatment for injuries and a network of centres will certainly help.

The NSMI will initiate research, and promote the importance of sports medicine and particularly education.

McLatchie, a consultant in general and peripheral vascu-lar surgery in Hartlepool where he established a sports medicine clinic, was the official doctor to the British karate team, a former British universities weightlifting champion, a marathon runner and a well-known author.

"It is sad that sports medicine has been so fragmented over the last ten to 15 years." he said. "However, now there is a sense of purpose and the fact that the NSMI has been founded will draw everyone together."

☐ The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) Council is likely to decide at its next meeting, in Toronto on May 29, whether to submit the Katrin Krabbe doping case to its arbitration panel. According to the IAAF vice-president. Arne Ljung-qvist, who is also head of their medical committee, the council could take such action if it disagrees with the German Athletics Federation's decision to lift the four-year ban.

Law experiences pain and pleasure Games, has to finish sixth or

YACHTING

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL IN HYÈRES, FRANCE

CHRIS Law and his Soling crew of Chris Mason and

The British trio recovered from a lowly 36th on Monday to win the second race, just ahead of Lawrie Smith, but then stumbled back to finish the third race in the midthirties. Law, who is making a last-

minute thrust for Olympic honours in a class in which he card one bad performance finished fourth in the 1980

Koch steering well for his rivals

last six races in the defender only eight years and, altrials. Restricted by lack of funding to one yacht. Conner man in moderate winds, is and his crew of veterans have messy through tacks and made the best of what they have got. The San Diegoborn Conner has an instinctive feel for the changeable

Koch has a splendid grasp of the technology but has not handled the human element

Stripes, has won five of the as well. He has been sailing though a competent helmsaround marks. It is this desire to be a helmsman, not a

now almost certainly puts them out of the frame for Poole. By contrast, Smith and his

crew of Rob Cruickshank and Ossie Stewart counted a seventh to lead the championship overall and now look assured of winning the British trials.

In the other races yesterday. Stuart Childerley won the Finn class and Barrie Edgington lies second overall among the wind-surfers after counting a third and tenth yesterday.

Penny Way holds third place overall in the women's class following her eleventhand second-place scores.
In the 470 fleet, Paul

Results, page 31

Cash seeks entry to Wimbledon

white establishment

indigenous flower.

replaced by the protea, an

George's assertions were

both denied. Danie Craven,

the Sarfu president, said mil-

lions of rands had been spent

to develop the game in de-

prived areas, and the Nosc

TENNIS

Tokyo: Pat Cash is to test his theory that former champions should automatically be granted wild cards at Wimbledon by requesting one for the championships this year (Barry Wood writes).

Although he will prepare for Wimbledon at Beckenham and Queen's, Cash's tennis interests are restricted to weekend games next month for a second division German league club in Hamburg. He is building a musical production studio at his London home, and is hoping to in-clude Yannick Noah in a laser music show set to tennis.

Meanwhile, Monique Javer reached the quarterfinals of the Japan Open with a 6-4, 7-5 win over Catarina Lindqvist

EQUESTRIANISM

Davidson sees his chance

By JENNY MACARTHUR

BRUCE Davidson, of the the world's premier three-day United States, riding last event. Since finishing numer-up in 1982 on JJ Babu, the year's winning horse, The Irishman II. will be one of the closest he has come is sixth in leading overseas contenders 1986 — again on J J Babu. In for the Mitsubishi Motors The Irishman, whom he Trophy at this year's Badminhopes to ride at the Olympic Games, Davidson, aged 42, ton Horse Trials from May 7 has a horse to match his experience. The 13-year-old The trials, which this year have a first prize of £20,000

gelding has completed Badand a prize fund of £100,000 minton four times. - a record in the sport - have The British challenge is led by Virginia Leng, a former world and triple European champion, on her 1989 Badattracted 115 entries from ten countries. New Zealand's entry includes Mark Todd, the dual Olympic champion. minton winner, Master Craftsman. She, like Mary with his 1990 Burghley winner, Face The Music, Blyth Thomson with King William. Tait, the world champion. needs a good performance at with Messiah, and Andrew Badminton to secure her Nicholson, a member of their Olympic team place. 1990 gold-medal winning

The European champion. lan Stark, Karen Dixon (née Straker) and Richard Walker have all been excused Bad-Results, page 31 1974 and 1978, has long minton with their top horses after their gold-medal win-

ning performance at the European championships last year. Stark, however, intends to compete. "It's my last year of sponsorship by the Edinburgh Woollen Mill and I would very much like to have a horse there," the Scot, aged 38, said yesterday. He will decide which of the

two "exempted" horses he rides - Glenburnie, his European champion, or Murphy Himself, last year's runnerup at Badminton - after competing at Belton and Brigstock Horse Trials. Dixon hopes to ride her

young horse, Stepney Bartholomew, after his encouraging performance at Kings Somborne last weekend. Powell has been quick to replace The Irishman. He has three entries — Limmy's Comet, a winner at Kings Somborne, The Fisherman

Jerry Richards experienced equal measures of pain and pleasure on their chosen road to the Olympics before crashing out of the British trials at Hyères yesterday.

San Diego: The burning desire of Bill Koch, the syndicate head and main financier, to steer his own yachts in the America's Cup defender trials is an in-built weakness of his thorough \$55 million campaign that can be only good news for the challengers (Bob Ross writes).

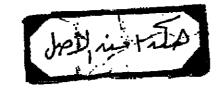
Although Koch has what should be the fastest yachts in Kanza and America³, Dennis Conner's older yacht, Stars &

ing his campaign. wind patterns off the coastline here.

passenger, that is complicat-

SEMI-FINAL POSITIONS: Defender series: equal 1, Stare & Serices (D Conner) and Kanza (W Kach), 4pts; 3, America² (Koch), 1, Challenger sories: equal 1, 8 Moro & Venazia (P Cenyard) and New Zaoland (R Devia), 4; 3, Ville de Parte (M Pajot), 3; 4, Mippon (C Diokson), 1.

Brotherton and Andy Hemmings finished eighteenth yesterday but the Times/Minet Supreme Award winners lead the series



career. He is not just sitting

back like a robot. John Dav enport went so far with him

but could go no further. I

trained champions, and I'll

make him a world champion

Lewis can whip anyone in the

top ten now. He'll whin

Holyfield but he is ducking us. Lennox will be the next

heavyweight champion of the world when he gets his

Neither Lewis nor Correa

seem particularly concerned at the prospect of Frank Bru-

no boxing for the world title

in the New Year and beating

Lewis to the great prize. Lewis

is prepared to wait even up to

there first" Correa said.

"Whoever is the world cham-

Yesterday Lewis boxed six

rounds with three sparring

partners Mike Gans. 1812

stone, Mike Dixon and Mike

Simouweli, both 16 stones. It

was certainly a new Lewis.

The main difference was that

he was quicker on his feet and more elusive. To cries of "beauteefool" and "stick,

stick" from Correa he boxed

much of the time on the

retreat, jabbing and slipping

punches and thumping the

in-coming sparring partner with the big right, once buckling Gans's knees. Wil-liams will be surprised at the

variety of new punches that

lift his hand and had to keep

it down. Everyone thought lie

The glove was split but luckily for Wharton the refer-

ee did not notice the tear. For

in changing the glove he

would have seen the extent of

the damage to Wharton's

hand and stopped the bout in

Wharton had to receive sev-

en stitches but Duff says the

hand will stand up to the job

tonient, whatton certaining had no trouble stopping the

Schaefer, in one round

He did have problems with

Lou Gent in the bout before

Schaefer, but Gent is a boxer.

Carr being the brawler type will suit Wharton better, for

the Englishman likes to meet

advancing opponents head

Carr's favour.

recently.

"We don't mind who gets

the end of 1993.

pion we'll get him."

chance."

BOXING

Lewis reverts to a

subtle approach

under new trainer

BY SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT

IF DEREK Williams - who

meets Lennox Lewis for the

triple title at the end of this

month — has taken videos of

Lewis with him to Angelo

Dundee's training gym in

Miami, he could be surprised

to find a totally different Lew-

is waiting for him at the Albert Hall on April 30.

Under his new trainer,

Pepe Correa, aged 51. Lewis

has foresaken his over-ag-

gressive, wipe-em-out ractics that his old trainer. John

Davenport, had instilled in

him, and gone back to the jab-and-run style of his Olym-

self." Lewis's manager. Frank

Maloney, said.
Lewis said from his train-

ing camp at Compton Greenfield. outside Bristol, yesterday: "I've studied my

fights and realised I was not

using my God-given talents

and Pepe has helped me to

"I know that to continue

my quest 1 have to recapture

my old style. Pepe Correa is a trainer of champions. My

movements and punches

were wrong. I know Pepe can

Sugar Ray Leonard's trainer, said: "In boxing the aim is to

hit without being hit and you

will not have longevity if you

walk forward with your chin

"I am happy to see a young Lewis man [Lewis] taking care of his night.

Correa, who used to be

improve me every way.

rediscover the sweet science.

"Back to his old dancing

pic days.

The second secon

SPORTS MEDICINE Council grant . will help clinics

ESDAY APRIL 5 140

First division strugglers face vital games

Wednesday could push Coventry deeper into trouble

By Louise Taylor

TRADING places may be directive at the start of the against Wimbledon at very much in vogue but it is a fashion which Coventry and Southampton are not keen to follow. While people have recently been swapping jobs with others for a day in order to raise money for charity. those clubs are desperate to be part of the new Premier League and enjoy the fruits of its finances.

Coventry are at home to Sheffield Wednesday tonight while Southampton entertain Nottingham Forest. Of the two, Coventry's plight is con-

siderably more serious.

After 36 first division matches, Don Howe's side stand fourth from bottom. three go down - five points better off than Luton Town, in twentieth place, who have played the same number of games.

By contrast, Wednesday who ironically are using Terry Butcher, the manager sacked by Coventry earlier this year, as a scout - are third from top and pressing for a Uefa Cup place next season. Whatever happens now, though, Trevor Francis, the Wednesday manager, will

ecutive of the Professional

Footballers' Association

(PFA), yesterday rejected

Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds

United manager, as a media-

tor in the body's dispute with

John Camkin, chief exec-utive of the League Manag-ers' Association (LMA).

suggested that Wilkinson, the

LMA chairman, would be the

ideal man to help resolve any

But Taylor said: "The PFA

has to look after its own af-

fairs and we already have

Professor Sir John Wood in

that very role at the moment.

He is an experienced, profes-

sional negotiator and, if both

sides agree to arbitration,

THE Makita international

rournament will be staged

outside London for the first

time in August when Leeds

United will host a competi-

tion which has become one of

the traditional curtain-raisers

season.

nd pleasan

to the new English football

Fliand Road on August 1 and

2 will be Leeds, Nottingham

Forest, Stuttgart and

Sampdoria. The Italian club

won the tournament last year

when it was staged at

Highbury.
"This is a great tournament

for the supporters who are

looking forward optimistical-

ly to our club playing in

The teams taking part at

Taylor remained optimistic

that there will be a successful ham's Craven Cottage.

then he would be the man."

outstanding points.

the new Premier League.

As he said yesterday: "My

season when we had just come up from the second division was to ensure a place in the Premier League and I'm sure that the other pro-moted sides, Oldham Athletic, West Ham United and Notts County, would willingly trade places with us. We'll obviously try to collect as many of the 18 points left

With 43 points from 35 garnes. Southampton's position has suddenly improved and victory against Forest tonight would virtually assure their Premier League future. Ian Branfoot's side are without Matthew Le Tissier and Barry Horne, who are both suspended, creating space for Michael Gilkes and Neil Maddison in the starting

available to us as possible

Both Arsenal and Liverpool will attempt to weaken Sheffield Wednesday's credentials for taking that Uefa Cup slot by taking three points. Liverpool, under the charge of Ronnie Moran for the first time since Graeme Souness's hospitalisation, will welcome Dean Saunders back in their

a two-hour meeting with Rick

Parry, his Premier League

counterpart, in Manchester yesterday. "We'll be seeing

each other again tomorrow,

Taylor said yesterday. "We

want to dot the i's and cross

the t's on a range of issues."

□ John Duggan, the chair-

man of Cabra Estates, the

property company that owns

Chelsea's Stamford Bridge

ground, returned from holi-

day yesterday and immed-

iately met his professional

advisers (Matthew Bond

written offer, believed to be

up to £13 million, made by Ken Bates, the Chelsea chair-

man, for SB Property - the

Cabra subsidiary that owns

Stamford Bridge and Ful-

Makita event leaving London

BY IAN ROSS

Duggan is considering a

GORDON Taylor, chief ex- outcome to negotiations after

Highbury. Leicester City can enhance their chances of promotion to the Premier League by defeating the FA Cup finalists, Sun-Taylor declines derland, at Filbert Street. Brian Little's side improved its prospects of qualifying for the play-offs with last an offer of help Wednesday's impressive win against Middlesbrough, but

suffered a setback with Saturday's defeat at Bristol City. Little, the Leicester manager, is, nevertheless, expected to keep faith with the side that contributed to a good game at Ashton Gate. Sunderland are without

The visitors have lost only

once at Liverpool since beat-

ing them in the 1988 FA Cup

final and if they prolong that

record it may benefit

Kevin Ball, who sustained a serious knee injury in Sunday's semi-final against Norwich at Hillsborough, and his place in central defence will almost certainly go to Ian Sampson. Gary Owers and Don Goodman are approaching full fitness but are unlikely to be risked.

Swindon Town can keep their hopes of a play-off place alive by winning at Millwall, and, in the third division, Peterborough United could do likewise by beating Bournemouth - who also have designs on promotion -



Brothers in arms: Rose, right, grabs the ball from his Michigan team-mate, Ray Jackson, but their opponents, Duke, seized the day, winning the final of the US national collegiate basketball tournament 71-51 in Minneapolis

ple was the result of compan-

ions spiking his drink.

Several of these companions

came forward to attest that

this had been the case and the

ban was removed, with Tuffs

Since the introduction of

the random tests, only seven

players have been investigat-

hibited substances. With the

exception of Tuffs they were

all cleared when it was found

that they had unwittingly tak-

en medicines, tonics and oth-

er products which were on

public sale in chemists' shops

which contained such sub-

stances. All were severely

reprimanded.

The Rugby Football
League has issued strongly-

worded circulars on the mat-

ter to all clubs and players,

with the proscribed sub-

stances listed, and warning

ed for alleged taking of pro-

cleared of any guilt

RUGBY LEAGUE

Player falls foul of drugs check

BY KETTH MACKUN

A RUGBY league official, David Howes, yesterday confirmed that a player, believed to be with a first division Yorkshire club, is under investigation after failing a random drugs test.

Howes said that a random sample had proved positive and the board of directors would be speaking to the player within the next two weeks. Howes said that in line with normal procedure neither the player nor his dub will be named unless he is found guilty of taking prohibited substances.

Rugby league has kept a clean sheet since testing for drugs was introduced five years ago, but Simon Tuffs, a Bradford Northern forward. was involved in a muchpublicised case last season after being initially banned for two years.

Tuffs protested that the substance found in his sam-

notices have been put up in dressing rooms. TENNIS

Agassi suffers nerves

his 1992 claycourt debut to Jacco Eltingh, of The Netherlands, in the Conde de Godo

tournament yesterday. Agassi lost 6-4, 1-6, 6-1 to Eltingh, who is ranked 94th in the world.

The powerful-serving Eltingh dominated the

Barcelona: Andre Agassi lost match, except for when Agassi briefly forced him into errors in the second set. "The guy played a perfect game at the beginning of the third set to break me and then I got scared to hit the ball," Agassi said. "When it got tight in the

third set I couldn't hit, and I

feel sad about that."

too late

Bosnia-Hercegovina has no chance of competing as an independent nation in the summer Olympic Games despite its recognition by the European Community, Juan Antonio Samaranch said

committee and in any case it was too late to apply, he said on tour in Minsk.

Seeds tested

Rugby league: Paul Lyman, of Hull Kingston Rovers, will

yesterday.

It had no national Olympic

Cycling: Stephen Roche, of Ireland, took over the lead in the five-day Tour of the Basque Country after finishing with the same time as the winner of the second stage to

Bosnia is

miss the rest of the season after breaking his thumb.

Rugby union: The Welsh

FOR THE RECORD

Salvatierra, Tony Rominger, of Switzerland.

IN BRIEF

THE second bout between

Rackets: Robert Wakely and Peter Brake, the fourth seeds. lived dangerously before reaching the semi-finals of the Lacoste British Open doubles championship at Queen's Club after a thrilling tussle with Guy Barker and Alastair Robinson.

Avengers

women's rugby team play Catalonia at Llandybie on Saturday hoping to avenge a 4-0 defeat in Barcelona 18 months ago. .

Roche leads

Carr can expect shorter shrift By Srikumar Sen

Henry Wharton, of York, the Commonwealth super-middleweight champion, and Rod Carr, of Australia, at Leeds town hall tonight. should be as explosive as the first one last June. Carr got off the floor twice to push Wharton all the way, but this time the champion intends to see the tough Australian stays

down. "Wharton knocked Carr out of the ring but could not finish him off because he damaged his hand in the eighth round," Wharton's manager, Mickey Duff, said. "But this time I expect Henry to stop him in seven or eight

rounds." Duff explained that Wharton had cut his knuckles so badly when he struck Carr's teeth with a left uppercut that the glove kept filling up with

blood. "Every time he lifted his hand blood ran down his arm; every time he hit Carr, both he and Carr were covered in blood." Duff said.

It should be a furious affair from the first bell and Wharton, who is unbeaten in 14 contests, will be expected to improve his record by making Carr his eleventh victim "In the end he just couldn't inside the distance.

Title bout scheduled

COLIN McMillan's bid to take the World Boxing Organisation (WBO) featherweight title from Maurizio Stecca, of Italy, has been scheduled for May 16 at Alexandra Palace. The bout had originally

been planned for May 2, but has been switched so that it can be shown on television.

Derek Angol, who was recently named as the official challenger for Akim Tafer's European cruiserweight ritle.

Angol, whose sights are set on a tilt at the vacant WBO crown against Yuri Vaulin, recently gave up the British title but is still Commonwealth champion.

SNOW REPORTS 20 380 good open sunny (Glacier and upper pistes good. 36 lifts operating) 20 130 good poor sunny (Excellent skiing on the Lings. Lower runs thin)

(Good skiing above 1,500m, Patchy below this level)

0 .. 0 195 mixed closed (Skiling above 1,400m very good. Resort runs closed)-SUTINY Tignes **AUSTRIA**30 210 good open cloudy (New snow has added a good layer to all pistes) 6/4 Ischgl 10 225 good open snow (Good sking on upper sections of mountain) 7/4

Westendorf 5 175 mixed closed 175 mixed clased (Upper runs still very good) SWITZERLAND 100_150 good open cloudy St Moritz (Good skiing on well-prepared runs) 20 180 mixed open sunny (Top runs in very good condition, Lower runs thin) 0

C d'Ampezzo 50 200 good open clouc (Fresh snow has improved conditions) 30 110 good open cloudy (Improved conditions thanks to recent snowfall)

UNITED STATES Aspen 100 130 good open (Good spring conditions) cloudy Vaxl 140 200 good open (Excellent skiing on soft snow) Supplied by Ski Hotline. L and U refer to lower and upper slopes

down to ten men. Two de-Europe next season," Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds fenders. Cleber, Portuguesa, and Jorge Luis, of Vasco da Gama, were sent off in the second half of a "We have had three wonderful years here at Elland match marred by the violence Road and Europe is the ultiof the tackling.

mate test for any side. I can-Edmundo scored for Vasco not wait for the challenge." in the seventieth minute but On the opening day, Leeds will play Stuttgart with Forest Nilson, the second too scorer in the competition, equalised pitted against Sampdoria. On the Sunday, the two wintwo minutes later with his ninth goal in 12 games. Vasners will meet in the final, co are now one point clear of which will preceded by a playoff for third and fourth Botafogo.

5/4

-2

cloudy

6/4

5/4

5/4

7/4

3

Corinthians moved intofourth place behind Bragantino with a 2-0 away win over Bahia. Paulo Sergio ☐ Vasco da Gama stayed top of the Brazilian championship after Monday's bad-temand Neto scored the goals for pered draw with Portuguesa, which ended with both sides

> FOOTBALL NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: West Ham 1, Brighton 1. BRAZILAN LEAGUE: Bahle 0, Corinthians 2, Palmerras 1, Sentos 1; Portuguesa 1, Vasco de Garna 1 POSTPONED: Beazer Homes League: Prettiair division: Hallasowen v Cambridge City: Moor Green v Waterlooville.

Late results on Monday AUTOGLASS TROPHY: Southern section: Final, first leg: Sloke City 3, Peterborough United 3. PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Blackburn I, Rotherham (), West Bromwich 2, Bradford City 1, Second division: Mensfield (), Preston 1; Middlesbrough 1, Black pool 2, Oldham 0, Lecester 3
NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: Luton 2, Swindon 1, Southempton 2, Fuham 0, Postponed: Oxford v Crystal Phalase levaterlogged pitch).

Fuñam 0. Postponed: Oxford v Crystel Palace (waterlogged pitch).
BEAZEH HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Worcester 2. VS Rugby 0.
HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Horwich 3, Emley 0. First division: Curzon Ashton 2.
Eastwood 0. Guiseley 3, Congleton 1.
DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Dagerham 0, Si Albans 0. First division: Croydon 0. Wembley 1.
NORTHERN LEAGUE: Cup: Semi-final: Byth Spartans 3. Billingham Synthona 0.
First division: Newcastle Blue Star 2.
Whicknam 1.

BASEBALL NATIONAL LEAGUE: San Dego Padres 4. Cinemnati Reds 3: San Francisco Glants 8, Los Angeles Dodgers 1. Pitliburgo Pirales 2, Montreal Expos D. New York Mets 4, St Louis Cardinals 2 (10 nnsi AMERICAN LEAGUE: Toronto Bive Jays 4. Delroit Tigers 2. Minnesota Twins 4. Miwaukes Brawers 2. Baltimore Onoles 2. Cleveland Indians 0, Texas Rangers 12, Seattle Marners 10; Kansas City Royals 5. Oakland A's 3

BASKETBALL NCAA MEN'S TOURNAMENT: Duke 71,

MELTON MOWBRAY: Manchaster Uniy national indoor champlonships:
Fours: Final: Cumbra (J Bell) 21, City of
Ely (G Harlow) 20. Triples: First round:
North Walsham 20. Lecaster 12,
Endington Court 22, hortungahm 21,
Paddington 22, ipswich 12, East Dorset
15, City of Ely 17: Thamsedown 18,
Harrispool 12, Wey Valley 22, Sealord 10,
Wymondham Dell 5, Brackley 21,
Teignbridge 19, Arun 11, Essea Courty
14, Newcasile 16, Tye Green 11,
Kingsthorpe 20, Perdiswell 18, Preston
23, Mole Park 21, Croydon 22, Sanley 19,
Woodspring 12, Blackpool Borough 19,
Dorchester 22, Herts 9, Desborough
(Madeinhead) 32; York 12, Bodmin 28,
Second round: North Walsham 15,
Erdington Court 16: Paddington 18, City
of Ely 12, Thamsesdown 20, Wey Valley 11,
Brackley 23, Teignhodge 14, Newcastie
16, Kingsthorpe 22, Presion 19, Croydon
14, Stanley 24, Dorchesler 11,
Desborough 15, Bodmin 14

RACKETS QUEEN'S CLUB, London: British Open doubles championship: First round: G Hewitt and A Anton bi D Walikins and A Lyons, 15-6, 15-7, 15-7, 15-4, 9-15, 15-10, C Worldge and ? Brudenell bt J Wilson and T Candy, 15-4, 15-3, 15-7, 15-6, J Show and D Johnson bt J Acheson-Gray and R Lawson, 15-3, 17-14, 15-9, 15-2 Sacond round: Worldge and Brudenell bt Hewitt and Anton, 15-11, 15-8, 15-0, 15-4, R Waliedy and P Brake bt A Spurling and D Malikinson, 15-13, 17-14, 15-12, 15-9, G Berter and A Robinson bt D Norman and C Hue Wikams, 15-1, 17-14, 15-6, 15-7, 3 Dawies and T Cockroft bt M Brookes and J Fensley, 15-6, 15-10, 15-0, 15-7, 17-14, 15-6, 15-10, 15-7, 15-15, 15-0, 15-7, 15-15, 15-10, 15-7, 15-15, 15-6, 15-10, 15-7, 15-7, 15-7, 15-6, 15-10, 15-6, 15-10, 15-7, 15-7, 15-7, 15-6, 15-10, 15-7, 15-7, 15-7, 15-6, 15-9, 15-7, 15-10, 15-9, 15-7, QUEEN'S CLUB, London: British Open

SQUASH RACKETS HI-TEC BRITISH OPEN CHAMPION-SHIPS: First qualitying round: Men: O Rucks (Gor) bi P Gregory (Eng.), 92, 93, 19, 97, 97, 1, Williams (Aus.) bi R Oven (Eng.) 93, 92, 59, 92, R Scheifer (Neth.) bi N Harvey (Eng.), 93, 94, 79, 69, 95, Women: E Svenby (Swe) bi P Nichell (Eng.), 10-9, 9-3, 0-9, 10-9

SHOOTING KINGSTON, JAMAICA: Teams of six (300, 500, 900 and 1(000 yards) 1, Jamaica RA, 1,121, 2, Greshams School RC, 1,108 Individual: 1, H Pollock (Greshems), 195 9, 2, H Torninson (Jam., 192 14; 3, P Martin (Jam.), 191 14, 300 yards: J Rowe (Jam.), 49,5 500 yards: C Lemmer (Greshams), 49,7 900 yards: Lemmer, 49

SALVATIERRA, Spain: Basque Tour. Second stage (183km): 1. T Rominger (Switz). 4fv. 58mm 57sec. 2. R Alcals (Mex), 3. R Pensec (Fr) 4. E Boyer (Fr), 5. Floche (Ire), 6. J Gorospe (Sp), all same time Overall: 1. Roche, 8fv 7mm 5sec. 2. Rominger, same time, 3. R Pensec (Fr), al. 7sec. 4. Alcals, 5. A Kvalsvoli (Nor), 6. Gorospe, all same time ICE HOCKEY

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool B (in Klagerfurt) China 3, Romania 3, Nether-lands 7, Buigana 1



Edgington: windsurfing race winner in Hyeres

BARCELONA: Spanish Open First round: M Jane (Arg) bit G Prote (Create). 6:2, 3-6, 7-6, 1 Muster (Austral bit V Palohermo (Fin), 1-6, 6-4, 6-2, R Gibert (Fi) bit JA Valoca (Sp.), 1-6, 6-4, 6-2, M Filippint (Uru) bit O Camporese (Ir), 6-2, 6-3

(Ger), 6-4, 6-3

REMINGTON FAMILY CHAMPION-SHIPS (Clearview Centre, Brenhwood)
Ouarter-finals: Father and son T and T Bumber (Lancashire) bit K and R Glass (Surrey), 6-3, 7-5, R and P Ranson (Yorkshire) bit R and J Tull (Lecestershire), 6-2, 6-4, D and S Lloyd (Surrey) bit P and M Ratcliffe (Northumberland), 6-3, 6-2, H and H Soms (Middlesex) bit K and K Dewick (Blucks), 3-6, 7-6, 8-6, Mother and daughter: Y and S Durham (Susser) bit T McY eag and C Smith (Northumberland), 2-6, 6-1, 6-3, L and L Paterson (Susser) bit V and F Brewer (Warwickshire), 6-3, 6-2, J and K Howden (Yorkshire) bit J and S Hayes (Dorset), 6-1, 6-3, L and N James (S Wales) bit J and P Walker (Lincs), 6-1, 6-2

ATP RANKINGS, 1, S Edibert (See)

ATP RANKINGS. 1, S Edberg (Swe), 3.419pts. 2, J Couner (US), 3.397, 3, B Becker (Ger), 2,757, 4, P Sampras (US), 2.511, 5, M Shigh (Ger), 2,476, 6, M Chang (US), 2,033, 7, G Forget (Fr), 1,971, 9, G hansperk (Create), 1,856; 9 Hendl (Cz), 1,710, 10, P korda (Cz), 1,550

YACHTING

HYERES: French pre-Olympic regatta: Soling class: 1, R Peters (GB), 2, J Bank (Den) 3, F Leon (Spi) Other British: 4 L Smith 18, G Charles Flying Durchman class: 7 S Schurich and M Schneeberge (Aus), 2, J and G Braun (US) 3, M Kosmina and S Goran (Sto) British: 6, W Henderson and A Harrop, 11, R Tushingham and N Powell, 12, M Lennon and M Ridschl-Smith Tornado class: 1, A and R Hagara (Austria), 2, G Zuccoli and A Glisomi (It), 3, L Hendiriksen and A

Ree (Don) British: 11. I Robinson and B Grant, 15, M Webb and I Furniss 25. I Reid and T Hewitt 470 (ment; Race 15 Ohlisu and M Hirobe (Japan), 2, J Robinson and H Calder (JB) 3, N Sicitien and S Loil (Neth) Other British: 4, N Buchley and P Newhards, 7 P Brotherlon and A Hemmings Race 2: 1, P Brotherlon and A Hemmings 2: S Konhonen and J Jatin (Fin), 3, R and N Shental (ts), 470 (wither 1), 3, R and N Shental (ts), 470 (wither 1), 3, R and N Shental (ts), 10, S Meyer and K Adlisofer (Ger), 3, I Bohn and S Rohaltsch (Ger), British: 10, S Rees-Jones and R Tribe, 11, D Jarvis and S Carr Finn: D Loewe (Ger), 2, F Lool (Swe), 3, E Vaccan (II) British: 10, S Ress-Jones and R Tribe, 11, D Jarvis and S Carr Finn: D Loewe (Ger), 2, F Lool (Swe), 3, E Vaccan (II) British: 15, Robertson, 24, A Lucas Ohmpic (Mortis, 3), M Milbourn (Swe) British: 12, Robertson, 24, A Lucas Ohmpic (Austina) British: 33, B Edgington, 2 C Morray (Can); 3, S Palomeras (Sp) Women: Race 1: N Lelevic, 2, D de Vines (Neth), 3, R Geubels (Bel) British: 9, P Way Race 2: 1, P Way, 2, M Herbert (Fi), 3, D de Vines

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England international denies rumours

Platt's priority is to help Bari avoid the drop

DAVIO Platt yesterday refut-ed rumours that he will be joining Napoli for £5.7 million this summer and insisted his only concern was to help keep his present football club. Bari, in Serie A of the Italian

League.
The England midfield player. who joined Bari from Aston Villa last summer but has already been linked with Roma and Juventus, said his only interest in Napoli - Diego Maradona's old club was beating them this week-end to boost Bari's survival chances. With seven matches left to play, 16th-placed Bari are in serious danger of drop-ping into Serie B and Platt said: "All I am interested in is Bari staying in Serie A. Suddenly three consecutive de-feats have made the job harder, but I still believe that we will stay up. particularly if we beat Napoli at home.

"We need the Bari supporters to be totally behind us. particularly during the last three home games. They have been wonderful during this difficult season and we intend to repay them with effort and commitment and hopefully two points on Sunday.

"At times of problems it is important to stand together. I am captain of the team and it is my responsibility to set the right example to my team-mates. This I will do.

TIME is running out for Stu-

art Pearce in his bid to lead

Nottingham Forest in the

Rumbelows Cup final on

Sunday. He is out of tomor-

row night's game at South-

ampton, the fourth match he

has missed since damaging a knee against them in the ZDS

Pearce is recovering from

surgery but since his opera-

tion, two more key defenders.

Gary Charles and Steve

Chettle, have joined their in-

spiring captain on the injury

CONSERVATIVE

10/1

10/1

20/1

25/1

33/1

66/1

80/1

100/1

300/1

0 1000/1

11-15 20/1

1-5 100/1

Forest have slogged

It's going to be the most dramatic Election Night for years, so

don't miss out on the full excitement. Place your bet with

Size of majority

Overall Majority in seats

1-6

7-12

13-18

19-24

25-30

31-36

37-42

43-48 Groups of 5 between 49-102

103 and ever

NO OVERALL MAJORITY-8/13

To gain an overall majority

11/10 LABOUR 7/1 CONSERVATIVE

To win most seats

1/5 LABOUR 3/1 CONSERVATIVE

400/1 LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

16-20 4/1 | 36-40 8/1

26-30 9/4 | 46-50 45/1 31-35 3/1 | 51-60 50/1

41-45

No. of Liberal Democrats Seats

50/1 Liberal Democrats to exceed 60 seats

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Cup. 10 days ago.

"But we must all be positive. Once we can overcome the problems of this season. Bari will then grow stronger with every passing year until clubs in Italy.

Our president has a vision of success and everyone at the club wants to help him

achieve it.
"I love Italy and the foot-ball out here, but the specula-tion is incredible. According to certain newspapers I have already signed for half-a-doz-en other Italian clubs." Platt's old club will have do

without Dwight Yorke for its Easter programme. Aston Villa's leading scorer will miss the first division matches at Nottingham Forest on April 18 and at home to Chelsea on Easter Monday in order to represent Trinidad and Tobago in their World Cup qualifier against Barbados on April 19. He flies out to the Carribean next week.

Trevor Steven seems destined to remain in the south of France with Marseilles rather than return to Glasgow and Rangers. The England international midfield player joined Marseilles from Rangers for £5.5 million last August but the French club still owed the final installment and Rangers had warned that he would become thier property again un-

Pearce doubts increase

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

through four games in a

week, but it has not stopped

their manager, Brian Clough,

strongly criticising his back

line which has allowed in ten

goals in those four games. Clough said: "I'm abso-

hutely fed up with it. I know we've been stretched a bit in

the last week or so but I've

never come across a side yet

who got anywhere by letting

in goals at the rate we are at

Clough's patched-up team,

also likely to be without Roy

Keane and Teddy

LABOUR

6/1

7/1

8/1

12/1

14/1

25/1

50/1

66/1

100/1

300/1

Sheringham, who are both

less they paid up by May 31. But yesterday Marseilles agreed to pay the remaining £2.5 million, and keep Steven. After talks in Edinburgh with a French delegation, David Murray the owner of Rangers, said yesterday: "We are delighted the matter has

been concluded successfully. "We would have taken Trevor back if Marseilles had not come up with the money for we would not have seen him left out in the cold. This is the end of the matter as far as we are concerned."

☐ Bonn: Jupp Heynckes, the former German international, yesterday confirmed that he would sign a two-yearcontract on Saturday as coach of Athletico Bilbao, the Spanish first division club, from the start of next season. "If I don't leave Germany

now, I will never do so," Heynckes, aged 46, said, revealing that he had rejected several offers from Bundesliga clubs. Heynckes, who played 39 times for West Germany in the 1970s, was dismissed by Bayern Mu-nich, as coach, last October. Heynckes said that Barce-

iona's Dutch coach, Johan Cruyff had encouraged him to move to Bilbao. Cruyff told him: "You have to take that job. It (Bilbao) is one of the best organised clubs in the Spanish League."

injured, tomorrow night,

faces a Southampton side

which has won its last six

league games to climb out of

is still without Matthew Le

Tissier and Barry Horne, sus-

pended, but would love some

revenge for the ZDS defeat in

Clough is adamant about

his priority at The Dell: "I'd

like to get back to something resembling a clean sheet," he said. He may be tempted to give the goalkeeper. Mark Crossley, the chance to stake a

extra time at Wembley.

Rumbelows Cup claim.

Ian Branfoot, the manager,

relegation trouble.



Different class: Arazi treats his Saint-Cloud rivals with disdain as he wins unextended by five lengths

Arazi's owners still at odds

RACING CORRESPONDENT IN PARIS

ARAZI was made hot favourite for the Derby on both sides of the Atlantic after a breathtaking seasonal reappearance in France yesterday.

But the unanswered question last night was whether Allen Paulson and Sheikh Mohammed, joint owners of the "wonder horse", will be able to reach agreement on where the horse runs.

summer for an estimated \$9 million, is anxious to win the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs on May 2 before attempting to complete the other two legs of the American Triple Crown. Victory in the three races carries a \$5 mil-

Arazi to the Dubai sheikh last

lion bonus Sheikh Mohammed has never had a horse even placed in the Epsom Derby despite an investment in bloodstock running into hundreds of millions of pounds and he is

the world's most famous race on June 3, after his Kentucky

À decision over Arazi'ş race programme will be taken after he runs at Churchill Downs next month. François Boutin, trainer of the world's best horse, may have to arbitrate if the owners cannot

Paulson said after yester-day's race: "American racegoers will crucify me if I don't go for the Triple Crown."

Ladbrokes offer evens, with

without the proviso. William Hill offer a best-priced 5-4 against a Kentucky Derby victory.

Steve Cauthen, who guided Arazi to an effortless victory in the Prix Omnium II at Saint-Cloud, compared the Blushing Groom colt to Af-firmed, on whom he won the Triple Crown in 1978. "It is like riding in a Cadillac," he said. "Potentially, he has the scope to be a great horse."

Tendulkar likely to miss five games

shire cricket club's first overseas signing, is likely to miss the first five matches of the season. The Indian Test batsman, aged 18, is contracted

Crossley was replaced by 20-year-old Marriott after his error put Forest out of the FA Cup at Portsmouth. It was later revealed that Crossley had spent the previous night to play in Bombay. in police custody. Though the Yorkshire chief Orlando: McDonald's Corexecutive, Chris Hassell, is aiming to solve the problem, it seems Tendulkar's first ap-

poration said it would become the ninth sponsor of the 1994 World Cup. "This rep-resents our first global sponspearance will be delayed until April 30, when the county orship of a sporting event," David Green, vice-president entertains Kent in the Benson and Hedges Cup. of marketing, said in Orlando on Monday. Meanwhile, Imran Khan,

A full sponsorship of the World Cup gives companies four signboards. McDonald's agreed to a two-board sponsorship, estimated to cost \$18-20 million. McDonald's joins Canon. Coca-Cola, Fuji, Gillette, JVC, MasterCard, Mars, and Philips. One sponsorship spot remains

The month-long tournament, starting June 17, 1994, expects to draw 3.5 million fans and 31 million television viewers.

More football, page 31

that the shoulder injury that troubled him during the

World Cup might prevent him from playing in his side's tour of England this summer "I damaged the shoulder a lot playing in Australia for about five weeks," he said in a television interview in Islam-

abad yesterday. "The post-Imran era may come very ☐ This year's winners of the NatWest Trophy will receive a record prize of £27,500 around £5,000 more than Pakistan collected for beating England in the World Cup final. Total prize-money for cricket's premier one-day knockout competition this

to £73,350 - up £2,500 on last year. Hampshire, the champions, are at home to Dorset in the first round on June

summer has been increased

The close of play has been extended from 7.30pm to 8pm to accommodate delayed or interrupted matches

Tszyu could be a contender

IT TOOK just 70 seconds to Fenech win world titles in three divisions, had been exconvince Australian professional boxing that the young cited by Tszyu's skills when he Russian junior welterweight, watched him fight as an ama-Kostya Tszyu, was, in the words of the country's top trainer, "a kid in a million".

Johnny Lewis, trainer of Jeff Fenech, the world champion, had told Tszyu before his first professional bout that he had to win the first round to show his opponent he was

"I wanted him to show off his skills for a few rounds," Lewis said. "He misunderstood; he thought I wanted him to finish it quickly." A flurry of lefts and rights put Darrell Hiles, Australia's leading boxer at the weight, out for the count.

The contest in Melbourne was Tszyu's first since arriving in Australia from his Urals home in Seroy, 1,500 kilometres east of Moscow, to join the Lewis boxing stable. A month later Tzsyu dispelled any lingering doubts about his professional potential when he demolished Ned Simmons, the tough Guyanaborn Canadian, in just 58 Lewis, who has helped

teur in Moscow three years ago. "In many years of watching amateur boxing I had never seen his equal," Lewis In November Tzsyu came

to Sydney and outpointed American Vernon Forrest with breathtaking ease to win the light-welterweight (63.5kg) gold at the world amateur championships.

"Pound for pound he's the best I have ever seen, which isn't a bad qualification for turning professional." Lewis

The 22-year-old Russian southpaw was already a hero back home with a formidable amateur record - a world title, three European championships and a US Goodwill Games gold medal in his record of 259 wins in 270

my with the help of local promoter Bill Mordey, Tszyu was persuaded to give up the chance of almost certain gold at this year's Barcelona Olympics to turn professional

A rough ride for home captain

FROM RICHARD STREETON KINGSTON, JAMAICA

RAUCOUS booing by the 11,000 speciators greeted Richie Richardson, the West Indies captain, as he walked out to bat against South Africa in the first of the one-day cricket internationals here yesterday. It was an unprece-dented demonstration against a captain by a home

Richardson was clearly blamed for the West Indies lack of success in the World Cup and for recent controversial selection policies.

The booing and jeers continued unabated as Richard-son made a sketchy start before the pressure on him was eased as Phil Simmons made a brilliant, attacking hundred. South Africa, who chose to field first, were left helpless as they tried to stem the flow of runs. West Indies finished with 287 for six in their 50 overs.

When Simmons finally skied a catch to extra cover in the 43rd over, he had hit five sixes and twelve fours and faced only 113 balls as he made 122. Most of his runs came from fiercely struck drives. One of his sixes, a straight hit against Henry. went out of the ground.

Richardson had to come through a torrid examination by Donald before he began to find his touch. He sensibly allowed Simmons his head as he contributed 30 of the 105 they added for the third wicket Richardson was then leg before to Kuiper and returned to the pavilion amid further booing.

Overcast, humid conditions before the sun emerged later may have persuaded Wessels to give West Indies first use of a hard pitch, which, though, played more slowly than expected. Donald's direction was variable as he strove for maximum pace and the first round definitely went to West Indies. They reached 64 for one

in the crucial first 15 overs Lara batted fluently from the start and continued to find the gap after Haynes was out in the seventh over. Haynes flicked Donald off his legs and Henry took a good catch at backward square leg.

Henry, the left-arm spinner, did not get much help from the pitch but he varied his trajectory skilfully. The second wicket had added 72 in 17 overs when Henry induced Lara to drive a catch to

Outside the ground before the start the first protest on the tour had come when a van with two loudspeakers on its roof drove past blaring the message: "Don't let cricket fool you. Cricket doesn't solve anything. We want black majority rule in South Africa and Nelson Mandela for president." Most of the spectators waiting to enter the ground hardly seemed to notice the

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-32, 2-104, 3-209, 4-236, 5-277, 6-286 EX. 3-27, 6-296

BOWLING: Doneid 10-1-47-2, Snell 10-1-59-0 van Zyl 8-2-53-0, Henry 10-0-53-1; Cronie 30-18-0; Kirsten 4-0-22-0; Kuiper 5-0-33-3.

SOUTH AFRICA: "K C Wessels, A C Hudson, P N Kirsten, A P Kuiper, W J Cronie, J N Rhodes, O Hierry, 10 J Richardson, C J P G van Zyl, R P Snell, A A Doneid.

Umpires: S Buckner and G Johnson.

Watson moves back into Masters contention

FROM MITCHELL PLATTS **GOLF CORRESPONDENT** IN AUGUSTA, GEORGIA

TOM Watson believes that being appointed the American Ryder Cup captain has improved his play and in-creased his prospects of winning the 56th Masters. which starts at Augusta National here tomorrow.

Watson, winner of the Masters in 1977 and 1980. brought an end to five years without a win when he captured the Hong Kong Open last month. The five-times Open champion is the first to admit that winning the Masters is a different proposition, but he is convinced that he has, at the age of 42, a and swing during his slump.

Twelve months ago Wat-"I was honoured to be

Tendulkar: start delayed

made the Ryder Cup captain," he said. "In a way I really believe it's help my play. I've been watching other players with the match in mind, and somehow the distraction seems to have helped me.

"It seems like this year I've not been hitting the ball par-ticularly well, but I've been getting the job done. I think I'm a little more relaxed about it and it's helping. I'm finding that I'm playing each hole as an event in itself. rather than trying to think of the swing too much." Watson became preoccupied with his alignment, grip

son came within a whisker of turning his career around when he stood on the 1.8th tee at Augusta sharing the leading with Ian Woosnam. He had had eagles at the 13th and the 15th. But Wat-

"If it was the only thing I was ever known for then, I would get tired of talking about it," Watson said. "It sure would have been tougher to take if I hadn't all the victories to even things out. Then again, losing last year's Masters is one of my great Watson said it was not the

the bunker, when instead I hit it into the trap where my ball was dead." Watson has found it inson pushed his drive with a three-wood into the woods and finished with a six.

three putts on three occa-sions, which illustrated the frailty of his putting stroke. Even so, he putted well in The Players Championship two weeks ago when he fin-ished joint-second with Nick Faldo behind Davis Love III.

this year in San Diego, where

creasingly difficult to handle the pressure when in contention. In Hong Kong he held a healthy lead but he took

three-wood shot alone which

cost him the chance of win-

ning. "I hit a stupid second

shot," he said. "I should have

laid up 40 yards or so short of

He also scored a 63 earlier

he was watched in a tournament for the first time by his children. "It inspired me," he said. "It gave me more desire to play well."

Watson has always played well at Augusta. He has finished out of the top ten only three times in 17 appearances as a professional. "I've always felt that I had a pretty good game plan to play the course," he said.

"Augusta is a special golf course with a lot of history. I've been fortunate to play well here and I have a lot of memories. I would like another one this week, but then everybody would, wouldn't they?"

Masters focus, page 29



Watson: more relaxed

paintings and silver, archive pails have go Dycks and Ga Rubenses, an generations of olds still app walls. *War an* all Althorp's Va Some in the that matters financially the have to be sold ous in their d and refurbish: £2 million) we The real sta be far less desp earl's evident integrity of t differences be

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MODERN TIMES Glamorous and sordid lives of Mafia women

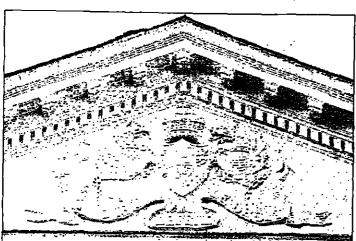
IFF & TIMES

Quarrying: threat to the British countryside



WEDNESDAY APRIL 8 1992

The marks of Spencer's reign



The Spencer family motto, 'God defend the right'

George Hill considers the inheritance

of the 9th Earl Spencer and whether his management of Althorp will be

less controversial than his father's

gilded nest, Lord St John of Fawsley called it in his address at the funeral service. Gilded past all recognition, and denuded of its less garish and most precious treasures to pay for the glitter, critics

The 8th Earl Spencer, who was buried among his ancestors last week, has left a more controversial mark than any of them on Althorp, the great house which has been the home of the Spencers for nearly 500 years. His death closes a bitter family quarrel, but the changes made during his ownership will be argued over as long as the house

survives. Exactly how drastic they were. and what the financial implications may be, is still known to few. Even the new Lord Spencer and his advisers may not be in a position to work out immediately what options are open to them after the activities. at once flamboyant and surreptitious, of the last earl and his

For the present, quite naturally, public comment from the family has been minimal. The house will remain closed to the public for mourning until after Easter, but there is every intention of reopening it again afterwards.

Althorp's contents - inherited, bought and set in order by the present earl's grandfather, a notable collector and connoisseur were so exceptionally fine that all the erosions of the last 17 years have still left the house rich in paintings and furnishings. Van Dycks. Gainsboroughs, furniture, silver, archives, and solid-gold ice pails have gone, but other Van Dycks and Gainsboroughs, several Rubenses, and portraits of three generations of Spencers by Reynolds still apparently hang on its walls. War and Peace, the finest of all Althorp's Van Dycks, is still in its

Some in the saleroom world hint that matters are getting so bad financially that Althorp may yet have to be sold outright. This would be a final irony, when its former master and mistress were so strenuous in their claims that their sales and refurbishments (to the tune of £2 million) were necessary to save a house structurally and financially

in precarious straits. The real state of affairs ought to be far less desperate, given the new earl's evident commitment to the integrity of the house, and the differences between his financial

position and his father's. The house now has an estate worth £50m behind it, put in trust for the present earl by his grandfather, to escape inheritance tax. This was not available to his father. But it may be true that the sales of treasures worth millions were little or no belp in securing the house and its remaining collections. In the complex network of tax bargains which tends to accumulate around a great house today, it is quite possible to sell in such a way that tax liabilities can swallow up

tan Museum for £270,000. The device of private treaty sale (enseveral times.

are two views about that. Lovers of antiques who watched the house change under the hands of Johnny Spencer and his wife Raine speak with anguish of what has been

Althorp is a cautionary tale for owners about the dangers of some bad advice, and a warning for legislators who seek to create a framework capable of protecting great houses without laying prohib-tive restrictions on owners. It raises the question of whether an Englishman's home is still his castle, if it

happens actually to be a castle. in itself, there is nothing unusual or shocking about owners of great houses making changes, nor about their selling chattels. Most of us like to leave a personal mark on our homes; some of us find ourselves in financial tight corners where selling the silver candlesticks may be the least of evils. Some of the furore over Althorp springs from the vicarious hoarding impulse of those who see country houses as a kind of visionary realm, where change can only be for the worse, and disposals are a kind of theft from a hoard which belongs to us all. They

the gains. Some of the sales were certainly

odd. Instances abound of works of art of the highest quality sidling on to the market and being sold for a fraction of the price they would have fetched with more publicity. A single painting by Andrea Sacchi sold to a dealer for £40,000 was promptly sold on to the Metropoliabling objects to be sold to the state, with tax advantages, on terms allowing them to remain in the houses they have been associated with) was mystifyingly ignored

As for the refurbishments, there

From one perspective, the story of

tend not to ask for whom the auctioneer's hammer falls: they are



The new Earl and Countess Spencer come to an Althorp denuded of many of its great treasures but with an estate worth £50 million which the late earl could not use

heritage. Yet for centuries owners have high-handedly discarded their ancestors' work, to replace it with the fashion of their own time. It is proverbial that the place to look for a house's best pieces of furniture is in the attic, where they will have been consigned in the last refurbishment, or the last but one. Without this process, with its gains and its losses, many of the country's finest schemes of decoration and architectural second thoughts would never have happened.

ot until the last century did owners begin to show much sense of historical perspective in the way they treated their inheritances. In this century historical respectfulness has gained ground steadily, and today's prevailing wisdom favours a level of deference towards the craftsmanship of the past that ancestral squires would have found pusillanimous.

"We value the patina of age today," says Peter Sinclair, the editor of Historic Houses magazine. "We have grown used to an atmospheric but really rather faded image of the country house. It gives us a shock to see an old pictureframe newly gilded, even though it looks much more like it would have

done when it was new." Is it conceivable that Raine Spencer's refurbishments may one day be seen as a rare and admirable instance of self-confidence in the timid late 20th century? Even if it is inconceivable, how far did she have a right to transform the house she found, to suit her comfort and express her taste? It is undeniable that much of the hostility she aroused had more to do with

snobbish distaste than aesthetics. Lord Shelburne, the president of

the Historic Houses Association (vulgarly known as the statelyhome owners' trade union) strongly affirms that change is natural in a great house. "If you look at the evolution of all these places, nearly every owner has done something to leave his mark. It is healthy and good that everytuing is and field by too many controls. But if owners are free to make changes. sometimes they will do things which are not to everybody's taste."

As landed property has become a less reliable revenue earner, he says, owners have found it harder to make ends meet. Since 1980 agricultural prices have halved in real terms. Grants for repairs from English Heritage have halved in just three years, he claims.
"If there is too little income, then

either you must generate revenue in new ways, which can be difficult, or sell something from time to time to clear down the debt - or sell the whole damned lot in one go," Lord Shelburne says. "It can be a nightmare to own one of these things. There is a real fear now that the privately-owned heritage may disappear in a few generations.

Lord Shelburne means to ask the next government for two relief measures for his members. One is to relieve repairs to all listed buildings of the burden of VAT. through zero rating. The other is for funds run by independent trustees, into which owners have irrevocably transferred assets for the maintenance of their houses, to be exempted from income tax and

These reforms might not have seemed much to the point to the 8th

earl and his countess. Their bizarre actions are only comprehensible in the context of the framework bequeathed by the 7th earl. Their protestations about the burden of death duties are puzzling in view of the reported preoccupation of the 7th earl, the present earl's grandfather, with the protection of the

family inheritance.

He was well aware of the inheritance laws. These have made provision since the last century for property and items of outstanding value, if open to the public, to pass tax-free from father to son under "conditional exemption". The ex-emption is "conditional" because if the items are sold at a later stage, the tax has to be paid after all.

The inference must be that the earl and countess chose to forego exemptions to leave their hands free to sell. Whether they gained or lost by this is a secret that may never be known except to the family and

the taxman. Substantial tax liabilities may still be outstanding. Some items were sold at a fraction of their real value, apparently to avoid the publicity of an auction or private treaty sale.

At the same time, revenueraising efforts at the house were geared up to an intensity which many onlookers found degrading. The house was advertised like a hotel ("Weddings, 21st birthdays, business or private lunches and dinners our speciality . . ."), and a Japanese property company was given permission to use the name 'Royal Spencer" for a chain of golf

In his concern to minimise inheritance duties, the 7th earl arranged for the bulk of the estate to pass to his grandson, while leaving Althorp itself to his son. Under the ancient system of inheritance misleadingly known as primogeniture, everything was destined eventually to come to the present earl, the youngest of his father's four children.

The last earl inherited the house, and the responsibilities that went with it, but was unable to make calls on the estate for its upkeep, nor for his other children. He used to speak publicly of his concern to make provision for the two of his three daughters who had not had the luck to marry into royalty.

His actions suggest a bashful and naive attempt to provide for them without resorting to the major sale he knew would have grieved his own father. When questioned last year about his family's disagree ments over the sales, he replied in evident distress that his children were ungrateful. If his efforts to

story, it is a sad irony that he blundered into a predicament where he angered them, squandered for a fraction of its value much of the inheritance his father had entrusted to him, and called down a greater deluge of hostile and derisive publicity than any other course of action could have

As Lord Shelburne observes, i can be a nightmare to own one of these things.

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Driving Mr Fixit well round the S-bend

ne of the consolations of getting older is that one day you look in your address book and find you have acquired a list of specialists (hairdresser, mechanic, hypnotherapist, carpet-layer) whom you can mention in conversation and pass on to your friends. "Try my Ear Nose and Throat man," you say, offhandedly. Or, "My acupuncturist knows an aromatherapist who recommends a plumber who could really help you with that!" Gosh, it makes you feel sophisticated. And at the same time, of course, it helps you fill the rather big address book (with pussy-cats on) that somebody gave you for Christmas.

I now have a builder, a carpenter, a gas man, and a painter and decorator. Most exciting of all, however, is the handsome "24hour emergency gardener", whose services I unfortunately rarely need. I sometimes think of him in the small hours, though, and picture him trouble-shooting in a dark garden somewhere, lashing daffs to splints in a high wind, looking Lawrentian. Should I call up with a bogus middle-of-the-night problem? "Thank God you're there!" I might say, feigning a verge-of-tears voice. "It's - er, a 24-hour emergency! And here I am. clothed only in these - er, diaphanous jim-jams, unequal to the struggle with the

convinced that it falls on their own

The only glaring hole in my lis of blokes is under "window cleaner", because the local chap simply refuses to clean my windows, on the grounds (I think) that I didn't register with him in 1948. "Excuse me," I say periodically, pretending that the idea is quite a new one, and that we have never had the conversation before. "You wouldn't do my windows, would you?" He looks down at me from his position on the ladder, and just says "No", but he packs the word with an impressive degree of hostility and affront. My question seems to offend him; I don't know why. I mean, he is a window-cleaner.

I mention all this because it is a great advantage of the single life to be able to say "There is something wrong with the heating; I think I'll get a man in", without having to negotiate with the boyfriend first. Boyfriends, I find, tend to reply No, let me take a look, I'm sure it's straightforward," and end up emptying the S-bend onto their shoes at three in the morning. However competent the boyfriend, the sight of him with his head in the gas cupboard and the sound of bang!clink!-Oops! is enough to make my blood run cold. "What do you mean, Oops?" I say, dancing about SINGLE LIFE

Lynne Truss on the thrill of calling up



in panic. "Nothing." "You said Oops!" "No I didn't." "You did." The trouble is that you start to identify with the boyfriend's tussle with his ego, which is getting out of hand. And strangely, no amount of hand-wringing or helpful why-don t-you-call-it-a-day noises make his russle any easier. "It's just this last hole," he says grimly, after a day of constant drilling, and you peek aghast into a room filled with

brick dust and a wall that has been drilled so many times it resembles pegboard. The helpful suggestion, "Hey, let's forget those silly old shelves, and give the books to the Russians!" fails to lift the gloom. Which is why I prefer the

professional option. This is a simple business arrangement. If the bloke has problems with the job. his ego is his own affair. Recently, a rather lugubrious gas engineer came to remove the old pump from my central heating, and when he said "Oh dear, oh dear, it won't budge an inch," and "Do you know, when you can get one side to come loose, the other side always sticks," I just said "Really?" and carried on watching daytime TV. Afterwards, when he discovered his car had been towed away from outside my house. I didn't identify with his wounded pride. I just drove him to the car pound and told him the fine was usually about

Left to my own resources, I admit I do sometimes "get a man in" when it is not strictly necessary. I once called a heating engineer when the only problem was that I had turned the thermostat the wrong way; similarly I recently called out a bemused Zanussi man merely to clean the filter on my washing machine. A live in partner

might have stopped me, perhaps; but on the other hand, I might equally have come home to find bits of washing machine all over the floor, and a scribbled note "Don't use water. Have gone to Zanussi spare parts centre in Cornwall." while the culprit filter sat unnoticed, cocooned in soggy fluff.

On acquiring a boyfriend, then, it is important to know that a chap who says enthusiastically "Why don't we knock the two rooms into one?" is not necessarily an expert with a sledgehammer. He has just always fancied the idea of knocking down a wall. A friend of mine was married to a chap possessed of this spirit of enquiry, who carried a Swiss Army penknife at all times, and would offer to make new holes in watch-straps (sometimes when you didn't want one). At dinner parties he was noted for telling stories of fast-thinking chaps with Swiss Army penknives who had saved lives by performing emergency tracheotomies. Understandably, everybody kept quite quiet after this, and chewed very carefully. The slightest choke, and you knew he was likely to leap from his seat and cut your throat. To him, it was the ultimate Do It Yourself.

TOMORROW Private Life: John Diamond

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LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: The orchestra continues its north-east residency this week with a senes of concerts conducted by the bright young American conductor Kent Nagano, and featuring the distinguished planist Dimitri Alexeev. The programme comprises the suite from Bartok's ballet. The Wooden Amoe, together with Beethoven's Concerto No 5 and Poologies's Symphony No 6, and will be repeated tomorrow at the Sands Centre, Carlisle, and on Friday, at Bob Brady's Warehouse, Barrow-Furness.

Gity Hall, Newcastle (091-261 2606), 7 45pm

COPPELIA: The Scottish Ballet presents the company premiere of Peter Wright's fine production, the first time the Glasgow rompany has ever performed Coppelia Toright's cast is headed by principal ballerina Nonko Ohara danony puringsi balerina noriko unara dano opposite Robert Hampton Playhouse Theatre, 18 Greenside Place, Edinburgh (031-557 2692), Tonight-Sat, 7 30pm, mats tornomow, 2pm and Sat, 2 30pm

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA; Mark Elder conducts David Pountney's long, full-bodied production of Verdi's Dan Carios, an ambigous, grand drama of conflict between personal and political demands in 16th-century Spain. The cast includes Posalind Plowinght as Elisabeth, Edmund Bartram is Don chalce, tumuno barram a por Carlos, Lunda Finne is Proncess Eboli, Gwynne Howell tales the role of King Phitip, and Richard Van Allan lords it as the Grand Inquistor Colliseum, 5t Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-836 3161), tonight, Sat, 6 15cm

REMBRANDT: Unlike most Old Masters, Rembrandt has been news for

ANGELS IN AMERICA: Thriling

performances in Tony Fushner's fasonating state-of-the-Union drama

THE COTTON CLUB: An impression of the Harlem nightspot: high on energy, low on story freshness Aldwyrch, The Aldwyrch, WC2 (071-836 6404) Mon-frt, 7 30pm, Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 2 30pm, Sat, 4pm.

El THE DARK RIVER: Accomplished revival of Rodney Ackland's 1937 drama: naivery and nostalgra in an England

Orange Tree, Clarence Street, Richmond 1081-940 3633) Mon-Sat,

TO DEATH AND THE MAJDEN: Julie

m DEATH AND THE MADDRE Linder Stevenson, Michael Byrne, Bill Paterson superb in Anel Dorfman's Chilean political drama Best play of 1991 Dulke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 5122) Mon-Sat, Born, mats Thurs, 3pm, 5at, 4pm, 120mms

DIGGING FOR FIRE: A druni en

requem for modern Ireland by Declan Hughes, a savage indictment but upliftingly played. Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (081-743 3388) Mon-Sat, 8pm.

☐ ELEEMOSYNARY: Three genera-

play by Lee Blessing, subtly acted.

Greenwich Studio, Prince of Orang

LI AN EVENING WITH GARY
LINEKER: Sometimes for illook at the fantacies of a frustrated woman mamed to a soccer nut.
Duchess, Catherine Street, WC2 (071-494 5075) Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 6pm and 8 45pm, 130mms

FROM A JACK TO A KING: Witty

□ AN EVENING WITH GARY

tions of dever women, expert in spelling but emotionally troubled. Refreshing

7,45pm, mar Sat, 4pm 165mms.

reductioning State-Of-time-Union drama on Aud; religion, politics, everything National (Cortesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928-2252) Tonight, tomorrow, 7,30pm, mat tomorrow, 2-30pm, 210runs

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current theatre showing in London

House full, returns only

Some seats available

Seats at all prices

the top, set in the world of rock bands and packed with Sinies songs. Bouleward, Walker's Court, off Peter Street, WI (071-437 2661 after 2pm). Mon-Sat, 8 15pm, Fri late show, 10.30pm, mat Sat, 6pm, 90mins. GOOD ROCKIN' TONITE: Satisfying musical celebrating Fiftes and Sixties pop classics, Great stuff. Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue

PHANTOM OF THE OPERA: Gleeful

NEW RELEASES BRANCHES OF THE TREE: Fou generations of middle-dass Bengalis come under Satyajit Ray's microscope Talky but mellow disquisition on life's National Film Theatre (071-928 3232)

DECEIVED (15): Goldie Hawn as the DECEIVED (15): Goldie Hawn as the wife who doubs her husband's identine Psychological thriller, wealt on story, but strong on atmosphere Stars John Heard, director, Damen Hams, Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666)

 KUFFS (15) Immature police protection officer (Christian Slater) averages the death of his elder brother. Flashy but feeble addingn to Hollywood's cop comedies. Director, Bruce A. Evans. MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636)

MGM Haymarket (071-839 152.) MGM Oxford Street (071-636 0310) MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031) Whiteleys (071-792 3332)

SCORSESE X 4: Simulating collection of Scorsese's student films, plus the 1974 Italianamencuri, a loving portrait of his parents in New York's Little Italy ICA (071-930 3647)

CURRENT LA BELLE NOISEUSE (15) Jacques

Exhibition of a painter and his model, struggling to complete an abandoned carvas. Close to a masterpace. With Michel Piccoli, Emmanuelle Beart, Jane Birkin. Chelses (071-35) 3742/3743) Metro (071-437 0757) Renoir (071-837 8402) ◆ BUGSY (18) Warren Beatty as Bugsy Siegel, the gangster who invented Las Vegas Sieel, wirty, dazzling to behold Starring Annette Bening, director, Barry

THEATRE GUIDE

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts

and entertainment compiled by Kari Knight

the last decade, owing largely to the activities of the Rembrandt Committee which has been demoting large numbers of once-wever Rembrandts into the work of pupils and followers.

This show comes to London from Berlin and Amsterdam, and consists of 46 paintings accepted by the committee, plus 12 now ascribed to lesser men,

me corena. National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, WC2 (071-839 3321). Darly, 10am-6pm (Wed, Fn to 9pm), until May 24.

PLAMINISTS THE Gate's "Beyond Europe" sason continues with Topher Campbel's drama of a Nigeria possed between the end of military dictatorship and the return of ornian rule. The play is prenewing and opens on Saturday. Gate Theatre, 11 Pembridge Road, London W11 (071-229 0706) Tonight, prenezione Ser. 7 2 Pom. Ser. 7 Pom. Ser. 7

h-Africar

FLAMINGO: The Gate's "Beyond

romorrow, Sat, 7.30pm

SIKULU: This production, by the

ors of *to: Tombr,* is a Sou

song-and-dance drama of a man's search for father and fatherland.

Opening right
Oueen's Theatre, Shaltesbury
Avenue, London W1 (071-494 5040).

Tonight, 7pm, Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 5pm and 8.30pm.

WHITE OAK DANCE PROJECT: The

(071-839 4401). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fn, Sat, 5.30pm and 8 30pm, 135mins. HEARTBREAK HOUSE: Paul Scoffeld and Vanessa Redgrave head Trevor Num's splendid cast in Shaw's timeless, state-of-England drama. Theatre Royal, Haymarker, SW1 (071-930 8900) Mon-Sat, 7-30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2-30pm, 225mins. CI MOBY DICIC A girk' school puts on a fund-raising show. Tony Monopoly plays a headmistress playing Capitaln Ahab, Beached muscal. Piczadiilly, Denman Steet, W1 (071-867 1118) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mars Tues, Sat, 40m. 135mus.

Offenbach, verbal and verbal backen. Lloyd Webber. Shafftesbury, Shafftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399) Mon-Fri, 7-30pm, Sat, 8-30pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm, 150mns. Final week. ppin I somilia. The week.

If THE POCKET DREAM: Foolish burlesque of A Midsummer Night's Dream, with Mike McShane and Sandi Toksnig. Dedicated lars only.

Albery, St Martin's Lane, WCZ (071-8671115). Tues-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Sat, Sun, 3pm 135mins.

CINEMA GUIDE Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol •) on release across the country

Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) Kensington (0426 914666) or Square (0426 915683) fisher Street (071-935

 CAPE FEAR (18): Demonic ex-con Robert De Niro terrorises Nick Molte and family Martin Scorsese's ferrorises remake of a classic revence thriller. With remarke 01 a Cassic revenge brailer. With Jessica Lange, Melette Lewis. Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) Empire (071-497 9999) MGM Balber Street (071-935 9772) MGM Fulham Road (071-937) 2636) MGM Trocadero (071-934 0031) Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

THE DOUBLE LIFE OF VERONIQUE (15) K.zysztof Kieslowski's brillantly filmed conundrum about two girls (one Polich, one french) who seem to share a file With hene lacob, Philippe Voter. Curzon Mayfair (071-465 8865). Curzon Mayfair (071-465 8865).

• PREEJACK (15): Emilio Estevez is indrapped with the future for a mind transplant. Depressing high-tech adventure, with Mick Jagger, Anthony Hopkins Director, Geoff Murphy, MGM Fulharm Road (071-370 2636). MGM Hollharm Road (071-370 2636). MGM Coxford Street (071-636 0310). MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031). Withteless (071-792 33321). Mom incanae (071-792 3332). FRIED GREEN TOMATOES AT THE WHISTLE STOP CARE (12): Heart-warming lives of feisty folks down South Shallow, but ingratiating With

Kathy Bates, Jessica Tandy, Mary Stuart Masterson; director, Jon Awnet. Barbican (071-628 8891) Northing Hill Coronet (071-272 6705) Octoons: Haymarket (0426 915353) Kensington (0426 914666) Screen on Baker Street (071-935 2772) Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

white aghts in favour of bare feet in his

new guise as modern dancer This Sadier's Wells season introduces to Britain the troupe he formed two years ago to showcase contemporary

American choreography. Among the dancemakers are Martha Clarke, David

Gordon, Lar Lubowitch, Meredith Monk Paul Taylor and Mark Morris

every programme. Sadier's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (071-278 8916). Tonight, Fn, Sat, 7.30pm.

CIVIL WAR: The Royal Armourles Inaugurate they first ever series of

touring exhibitors with one devoted to arms and armour from the English Civil

arms and armout nor the piece CNV
War period. The centrepieces are
Charles i's ornate gilt armour (whether
or not it was ever actually worn in
combat) and Oliver Cromwell's sword,
which almost certainly saw action
Along with these there are replica arms

Town Docks Museum, Huli (0482 593902). Mon-Sat, 10am-Spm, Sun, 1.30-4.30pm, until May 31.

THE SOVEREIGN EXHIBITION — A CELEBRATION OF 40 YEARS: The

V&A's enhancen is the focal point of the fortieth answersary of the Queen's accession. The Royal College of Art has designed and constructed the show. A dazzling array of decorations and

dazzing array or oecorators and unforms is promised, as er sections offering an unsight into the Queen's relationship with the Commonwealth and the media, the running of the Royal Family firm, and her changing fashors. Victoria and Albert Museum. Cromwell Road, London SW7 (071-938 8500). Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm, Sun, 2.30-6pm, Until September 13.

THE SEA: Judi Dench splendid as the village grande-dame in Edward Bond's comedy of rage and madness. National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Yoday, 2.15pm and

SOME LIKE IT HOT: But what we get is lukewarm. Tommy Steele in poor musical version of the film. Prince Edward, Old Compton Street, W1 (071-734 8951). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm mats Thurs, Sat, 3pm. 165mns.

C STRAIGHT AND MARROW: Nicholas Lyndhurst, Neil Daglish and Carmel McSharry in likeable cornedy

Wyndhem's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Sat, Spm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm, 130mms

LONG RUPINERS:
Aspects of Love: Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) ...
Bislood Brothers: Phoenix (071-857 1044) ...
Buddy: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) ...
Carmen

Palace (071-834 1317) ...

Carmen Jones: Old Viz (071-928 7616)

Claste New London (071-405 0072)

Denoting at Luighnasse; Gerick (071-494 5085) ...

Don't Dress for Dinner: Apollo (071-494 5070) ...

Prive Guys Manned Mose: Lync (071-494 5045) ...

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Me and My Girk Adelphi (071-494 5000) ...

The Mousetrap: Palace (071-494 5000) ...

The Mousetrap: St Martin's (071-836 1443) ...

The Pleanton of the Opera: Her Majesty's

St Martin's (071-836 1443). ... III The Phanston of the Opera: Her Majesty's (071-894 5400). ... | Return to the Forbidden Planet: Cambridge (071-79 5299)... | It Startlight Express: Apolio Victoria (071-828 8665) | Thunderbirds F.A.B. — The Mast: Generation: Ambassadors (071-836 511). ... | IA Thibute to the Blues-Brothers: Whitehalf (071-867 1119) ... | The Woman in Black: Fortune (071-836 23017-836 2

Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theatre.

1119) The Woman Fortune (071-836 2238).

mother's womes, notable

Acov is expected to dance in

HiGH HEELS (18): Lukewarm, talkatve melodrama of family secrets from Spain's master of camp, Pedro Almodówar. With Victora Abril and Marisa Paredes. MiGN Chelsea (071-352 5095) Gate (071-727 4043) Lumière (071-826 6691) Screen on the Hill (071-435 3366)

 MY OWN PREVATE IDAHO (18): Gus Van Sant's guirky portrart of two drifters searching for a home; striking and aggravating by turns. With River Phoeric, Keanu Reves. Camden Plaza (071-485 2443) MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2635) MGM Shaffinghay & wenge (071-876). Shafteshury Avenue (071-836 6279/379 7025) MSM Trocadero (071-434 0031] Screen on the Green (07) 226 3520).

MECESSARY ROUGHNESS (12): American college football team makes good. Crushingly dull, with cliches galore. With Scott Bahula, Hector Elzondo; Director, Stan Dragoti. Plazza (071-497 9999).

◆ THE PRINCE OF TIDES (15): New York psychiatrus helps football coach face family secrets. Romantic drama with ideas above its station, grandly acted by Mich Wolte. Barbra Stressand directs and co-stars, but fails to sing. MGM Balter Street (071-935 9772) MGM Chelsea (071-935 9096) MGM Oxford Street (071-636 0310) MGM Transcript (071-636 0310) MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031) Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) Mezzanine (0426 915683) Whiteleys THEATRE

Sales figures don't add up

HAVE you sat there, feeling your will drain away while some latter-day snake-oil salesman chivvied, charmed browbeat and caressed you into buying something you did not want, knew you did not want, yet found yourself possessing by the end of the encounter? If so, William Gaminara's play may be worth a visit, since it will teach you some of the tricks of the trade and even arm you against further exploitation. The trouble is that it covers ground or, more accurately, jungle - remarkably similar to that trodden by David Mamet in Glengarry Glen Ross. Comparisons with the American play are inevitable, and wholly to the British dramatist's disadvantage.

In each play four hucksters are locked in combat. In America they are passing off alligator-infested swamp as building land; in England, flogging expensive but serviceable water filters. In America the sharpest salesman will win a Cadillac, in England, a telly. In America the reward for even relative failure is the sack; not in England. The differences seem significant. The stakes and the sleaze are greater in Glengarry Glen Ross. Mamet's play has an energy, a tension, a bite and (not least) a verbal fizz that Gaminara

But what most strongly distinguishes the dramatists are their respective views of the piranha pool. Mamet can hardly disguise his glee at his charac-ters' inventive chicanery. Gaminara Back up the Hearse Hampstead

may feel some grudging admiration for them, but dare not show it. That is presumably why he has made his wiliest salesman. Danny Webb's Steve. a former radical, disillusioned by the collapse of Eastern Europe. This chap proceeds to spend the play pulled one way by cynical self-interest, the other by conscience and by his brother, who keeps both his socialist faith and his old anti-war posters. There is no doubt which side we are supposed to be on.

This may be all very responsible and correct: it is also implausible and boring, a case of ideology intruding on life and leaving it half-extinguished. That is a pity, because Gaminara portrays the hustler's skills pretty vividly. His play is never better than when Steve is improvising intricate charades, or when his main rival, James Purefoy's swaggering Brian, is offering a crash course in manipulation. "How would you feel if your son ate a lump of asbestos?", "Does the term 'senile dementia' mean anything to you?": that is what is known in the trade as "backing up the hearse and letting them sniff the flowers", a technique here meant to leave suckers feeling that whatever is coming out of their tans, it is not water.

John Dove directs capably enough: Wilbert Johnson and Debra Gillett



Lesley Dunlop and Paul Bown: represent morality versus indulgence

ROCK

play the more inept of the four pedlars: Lesley Dunlop is the manager who tries to implant a little morality in the sales force, and Paul Bown, snorting cocaine, the one who uproots it. But all their skills cannot prevent the question resurfacing. Why can't Gaminara trust

us to come to our own conclusions, as Mamet did? And isn't it a bit much to attack surreptitious salesmanship and slyly hawk your own political

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

THEATRE

Clumsy cut and thrust

The Year They Changed the Wires **ICA**

STEVE SHILL and Graeme Miller have been working together since their days with Impact Theatre in the mid-Eighties, creating texts that generally approached their subjects along a quirky route. Sometimes it was not clear what they were on about; but then the images would coalesce, like a dream that ends by making sense, and the experience as a whole took on a grave and quiet rightness. Of their handful of plays the best one I saw was Five Smooth Stones, a father-and-son confrontation over poetry and cricket that Shill directed and for which Miller composed a mysterious score incorporating birdsong, faint cries and the

horns of ships lost in fog. In their new, shortish and disap-pointing play, Miller's music is really the best thing, scored for instruments this time, with a cello rumbling like distant thunder. The confrontation is about to be filmed. Shill plays the bullving director, whose first action --

TWO remarkable young dancers have

come up within Moscow City Ballet

since its first visit to Britain last year.

Even then, I heard enthusiastic reports

of Evgenia Vorobieva, who was being allowed to dance the occasional mati-

nee of The Sleeping Beauty during the company's regional tour, though never

at a time when I could see her for

myself. Now aged 22, she is prominently featured in the programmes for this return visit, and last week at

Wimbledon I was able to see not only

her Aurora but her first Odene-Odile

And that is not all: the company has

found another, even younger Aurora. Elvira Rikova, just out of the Bolshoi School but already dancing, like Vorobieva, with confidence, style and

in Swan Lake too.

which symbolises his approach to art is to kick the novelist in the grain, and Miller plays the care-worn novelist, draped in a duffle coat and looking like John Hurt after a sleepless week.

The 500-page screenplay has to be boiled down overnight to a quarter of the length and the play compresses this long night's work into a mosaic of the short cuts employed by the trade. Out go reveries in the lavender fields of Provence. In their place comes a rubbishy adventure about gangland Paris, vigorously acted out by Shill who never suggests a film director's authority - and by Miller too, once he has been stoked up on cocaine, magic mushrooms and Scotch.

And that is all the play is, a sequence of dim and unbelievable sketches. All right, directors turn a page of nuances into one bold image, but the satire is fearfully heavy-handed and insights are rare. The best line comes when the writer discloses the anguish that fuelled his tale and the director asks: "Are there any other personal tragedies you can use?" Miller establishes his character with baffled stares into the middledistance and finds various other ways to suggest the innocent adrift, including an attempt to snort cocaine into his mouth, but his character has little substance and Shill's none at all And with a barely credible story to work on, e decomes a mi sensitive novelist whose latest opus is take that even the cello cannot rescue.

JEREMY KINGSTON | Supremes, three plump matrons

immortal?

The Giants of Motown Wembley Arena

Is the soul

WILL they look the same? Will they sound the same? Many of the people crammed into Wembley Arena must have been asking themselves those questions as the lights dimmed. Would this three-hour gala be a genuine

celebration of the Motown era. or

simply a tacky, morale-boosting exer-

cise for singers who have nothing much to sing about any more?
In the end it was a bit of both, most of the sets consisting of non-stop medleys, bashed out at excessive volume. Tamla-Motown hits were made to be played on the transistor or the

Dansette, not to be pumped out indiscriminately in caverns like this. With The Four Tops and The Temptations topping the bill, the first segment of the show was devoted to rfunctory appearances by lesser celebrities. Edwin Starr made the best of things, careering through "Stop Her On Sight" and "Contact". Martha Reeves and The Vandellas managed to oung as fresh ar

in their prime. The same could not be said of The

squeezed into ballgowns. Jean Terrell. Scherrie Payne and Lynda Lawrence all sang with the group in the Seventies following the departure of Diana Ross. Some of the hits from that period -'Up The Ladder To The Roof". "Stoned Love". "Floy Joy" - are as tuneful and sophisticated as those from the Sixties. Here, thanks in part to the acoustics, they came across as second-

rate cabaret filler. There seemed a danger that the same fate might befall The Temptations, whose best work at Motown was built around Norman Whitfield's "psychedelic" production values. Allowed the luxury of a full 45 minutes, they alternated between mesmerising reworkings of the Whitfield-Barrett Strong hits and unremarkable selections from their more recent albums. Despite the fancy footwork - the current line-up is as suave as ever - the modern material could have been

performed by just about anyone. Last on stage, the Four Tops opened with another stab at "MacArthur Park", a song which has always seemed out of place in their repertoire. From there, they sprang into the Holland-Dozier-Holland medleys, reducing most of them to surprisingly effective stadium chants. Approaching their 40th anniversary. Levi Stubbs and his colleagues may not move with ite the same grace of old, but "Reach Out (I'll Be There)" still works its spell.

CLIVE DAVIS

DANCE

Youthful beauty awakes

Moscow City Ballet Wimbledon

individuality. They could hardly be more different: Vorobieva is tall and slender, very composed in manner; Rikova is small, rounded, and moves with bubbling enthusiasm. Neither of them finds any difficulty in this demanding role and, whether by instinct, good coaching, or probably a mixture of both, they manage to get the

Vorobieva is at her best at Aurora's birthday party, where her long, excel-lently sustained arm movements add a lovely serenity to the main solo. Like Rikova, she is able to make the most of a rather too fussy solo in the Vision Scene.

I could wish only for a little more grandeur at her wedding after the awakening. Her prince was Yuri Posokhov, a guest from the Bolshoi (he was due to figure prominently in the Bolshoi's last London season but was unwell). Highly personable, dashing, a

fine dancer and a good partner, he proved to be everything a girl could desire.

Rikova's prince, Dmitri Romanov, looks somewhat like Mick Jagger. His technique is a touch uneven (excellent cabrioles, shaky tours en l'air) but he presents himself well. Luckily, Rikova's performance grew in radiance as it went along, and shone most warmly in their final duet.

Many other lively and gifted young dancers in the ensembles and intelligent well-rehearsed production and reasonable playing from (gor Shavruk's orchestra make this Beauty well worth seeing. It is at Manchester this week and Sadler's Wells next week.

JOHN PERCIVAL

ENTERTAINMENTS

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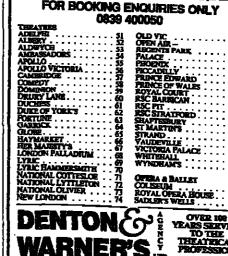
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Conductors in search of tickets

London's top orchestras are fighting for supremacy, and Richard Morrison is keeping score

he present London orchestral season has been the most worrying for a decade. Gone are the signs of the brave new adventure promised when Nicholas Snowman first came to the South Bank as artistic director. The recession has forced all orchestras to play for safety. Brahms is back, Birtwistle banished.

Even so, there have been dismal box office figures. The BBC Symphony Orchestra's Festival Hall concerts have averaged 18 per cent of capacity so far this season. John Drummond, now departed from the BBC Controller of Music job, could have put the entire audience for most concerts in a village hall.

Meanwhile, the four independent London orchestras go on trying to woo the same punters with the same programmes, played (except for the Barbican-based London Symphony Orchestra) in the same venue: the Festival Hall. But this is all supposed to change in September, when the London Philharmonic begins its five years as the South Bank's resident orchestra.

In theory, the residency will give the LPO and its music director, Franz Welser-Möst, the edge over the Phil-harmonia (conducted by Giuseppe Sinopoli) and the Royal Philharmonic (under Vladimir Ashkenazy). The LPO's contract guarantees that its rehearsals will be in the Festival Hall, and gives it first choice of dates and repertoire. The idea is that the orchestra will then enjoy such wonderful conditions that it will develop into a world-class ensemble.

So is all set for a golden age at the Festival Hall? The answer is no. All is set for a backstage power struggle that will be bloody even by London orchestral standards. It will be fought on two fronts. First, there is a feeling that the South Bank is trying to soften the implications of the LPO's residency for the other orchestras. In particular the Philharmo-



The South Bank's conductors (left to right): Giuseppe Sinopoli of the Philharmonia, Franz Welser-Möst of the LPO and Vladimir Ashkenazy of the Royal Philharmonic

nia has been given special treatment for playing "difficult programmes - or at least, that is how the LPO might see it.

n the coming months the LPO, which once attempted to take over the Philharmonia, will use every mechanism its contract allows to force the Philharmonia away from prime dates and repertoire. The RPO is seen as less of a threat. It has had its grant cut this season, and suffered the resignation of its experienced managing director, Ian Maday.

Second, the question of "who runs the show?" will surely soon assume significance. If the ambitious young Welser-Most were in charge of any other Philharmonic in the world, there would be no question that he would have carte blanche to do whatever

he wanted in his own hall. On the South Bank, however, Snowman's position as artistic director implies a confused command, or perhaps one general too many. Then there are the wishes of Ashkenazy

and Sinopoli to be considered. Why, though, should there not be several orchestras competing for London trade, as there have been for 40 years? Is competition not good for consumers? Why is the LPO management, led by John Willan, so intent on squeezing its rivals?

The answer is that the LPO has looked around the world at the orchestras it most wishes to emulate, and found in each case a close bond between orchestra and hall. Vienna. and Musikverein; Berlin and Philharmonie; Amsterdam and Concertgebouw, and now Birmingham and Symphony Hall: these are perfect mar-

riages. Only in London is a kind of loose-living menage a quatre offered as a substitute for monogamy.

The point was emphasised a

fortnight ago, as the LPO completed its round-the-world tour with two well-received concerts in New York. Here was an opportunity to compare the circumstances of the LPO and the orchestra in whose hall it was playing: the New York Philharmonic.

New York's "John Willan" is Deborah Borda, appointed last year to run the New York Phil. She admits that she is competing primarily against other forms of entertainment. not other orchestras. "We were concerned that the group not corning to our concerts was the 30-to-45-year-olds with disposable income — people who used to be called yuppies. In New York there is intense competition for the 'leisure

dollar', and we found that a lot of these people were wary of spending money on symphomy concerts; they were not sure how to behave, how to dress, how to respond to the music."

orda's solution has been to use her greatest asset: a hall permanently available to the orchestra. For instance, she has launched "Rush-hour Concerts" of accessible music on weekdays at 6.45, followed "meet the orchestra" sessions. "We call them youth concerts for adults; they break down barriers between the Philharmonic and these po-

tential audiences." In this respect, New York music-making is miles ahead of London, as Willan points out. "The fundamental difference is that the New York Phil is competing for the leisure dollar against cinemas, restau-

rants and theatre. In London we too are competing against all these, but also in the Festival Hall against two identical organisations. The way that Deborah can talk about her initiatives is fantastically refreshing. But she doesn't have to worry about doing this Beethoven symphony or booking that conductor before the opposition has the same idea.

expansion in the Eighties.

And the desperate state of

American musical education

puts pressure on eminent bod-

to "do something" about chil-

dren's musical appreciation.

as well as to attract non-white

So not everything in New York is to be envied. Similarly,

it would be wrong to believe

between the LPO and the

improve and its conductor

must mature. Nevertheless,

Willan believes that the hall is

the key. "If I could take one

thing from New York it would

be the whole relationship be-

Girl from The Lowdown

forward one millimetre."

audiences.

"What's more, it would be inconceivable that we could do something as imaginative as a Rush Hour series in the Festi-val Hall. The South Bank structure is so cumbersome that, with the best will in the world, it would take years to get such a thing organised. In New York the hall does the orchestra's bidding."

Borda has her problems. Every professional orchestra in America is running a deficit: the result of over-ambitious

ARTS BRIEF

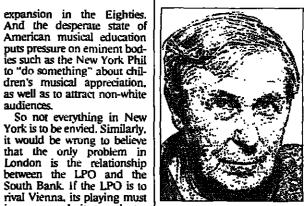
Healthy appetite

BARELY pausing to lick his lips after polishing off the Best Actor Oscar for his portraval of the cannibalistic psychiatrist in Silence of the Lambs, Anthony Hopkins will now add a starring role in the film version of Kazuo Ishiguro's novel, The Remains of the Day, to his menu for 1992. The film, which will be adapted by Harold Pinter from the acclaimed novel, is to be directed by Chris Menaull (of teaminion's Prime Suspect).

When the film was first talked about, it was expected that last year's Oscar-winner Jeremy froms would star and Mike Nichols would direct: Nichols has now decided to produce the film instead. Shooting begins in the summer, after Hopkins has com-pleted work on The innocents, to be directed by John

Postponed

BRITAIN's crowded summer festival schedule has been eased slightly, but in unfortunate circumstances. The Sheffield Chamber Music Festival the second most famous annual event to take place in the Crucible Theatre - has been cancelled this year. Peter Cropper, leader of the Lindsay String Quarter (the festival's mainstay) has suffered a mild heart attack, and since he was involved in 14 of the 29 events, the whole has now been transferred to May 1993. However, the world premiere of Sir Michael Tippen's Fifth Quartet will go ahead this year, on May 9.



Tippett: his new quartet premieres on May 9

Last chance . . .

THE Commonwealth Institween the orchestra's executive tute, in Kensington, London team and the space in which it plays. Until we crack that in London we won't be going W8 (071-603 4535) is coordinating its programmes this year under the general heading of "New Worlds". marking the "European New World of 1992" and the anniversary of Columbus's first voyage to America. A show called "History and Identity" has seven painters from Britain's African and Asian communities reflecting on their dual heritage. Some are strongly political, while others are cheerful and unashamedly nostalgic. It con-

DANCE PREVIEW

Will we tire of the dance?

was like a bird of paradise, isolated and idolised in its Iron Curtain cage. offering tantalising glimpses of beauty and brilliance in rare foreign flut terings, When the Bolshoi Ballet first visited Britain in 1956 it caused a sensation; so did the Kirov when it exploded onto Western stages in 1961. leaving Rudolf Nureyev in its wake. The great dancers who fled to the West - Nureyev. Natalia Makarova, Mikhail Baryshnikov — helped to feed the myth: Russian ballet was the best in the world.

But recent years have told a different story. When glasnost opened the floodgates between East and West, all kinds of Russian ballet — good and had - came pouring out. The Bolshoi and Kirov (now renamed the Maryinsky) took up regular foreign tours; so, too, did a host of lesser companies, also eager to cash in on the hard-currency bonanza abroad. As a result, Russian ballet has become commonplace, and the once rare treasure has been demvsrified - and in some cases debased - in the process.

In the past few years. Britain has seen the Bolshoi and the Kirov, along with Moscow Classical Ballet, Moscow City Ballet, Moscow Festival Ballet, the Russian State Ballet and something billed, rather vaguely, as Moscow "La Classique" Ballet Last autumn, no fewer than four such companies were touring this country, with a string of often tacky productions that met with varying degrees of critical

approval. This year the trend continues. Moscow City Ballet, just five months after its 1991 autumn season ended, is back. presenting The Sleeping Beauty on a six-week tour of Britain (see review, on the page opposite); the same company is negotiating to return with a new production of Nuteracker for Christmas — its

third visit in 12 months. Then, on Monday, the Bolshoi comes back, or at least a scaled-down version of the company with just 30 dancers. for a 14-week, 25-city tour, still sold out. In Cambridge we

One Russian ballet company is already in Britain, and another arrives next week.

Debra Craine questions a growing trade



Natalya Bessmertnova: "I think that there are too many Russian companies, but the Bolshoi shouldn't worry"

undertook here in 1990. And now comes news that the full Bolshoi, with 170 dancers, is to make its first visit to Britain since 1989 with an "arena" season next January at the Albert Hall.

Yet despite the glut, the public's appetite for Russian offerings remains enormous. Trevor Mitchell, Moscow City Ballet's British tour manager, says the 70-strong company has had no trouble finding a sell-out audience at every stop on its tour. "We had the most amazing success in Swansea; we had to add two extra

performances," he says. "Billingham was sold out: it was the first time they had had a major ballet company there. Inverness sold out the day nickets went on sale: in Carlisle we performed in a large gym which had been converted and had to put the orchestra in the bar and pipe them through and yet we were sold out. At Wimbledon we were busting at the seams with people.

"We are packing out every-where we go. We are going to venues that English National Ballet and Birmingham Royal Ballet don't normally go to so obviously we are going to attract local audiences and local sponsorship."

The "Stars of the Bolshoi Ballet" tour, which opens on Monday with a royal charity gala at London's Dominion. will also take ballet to venues too small to accommodate the larger companies, although instead of full-length works the troupe will perform the second acts of Swan Lake and Giselle along with a selection of

popular divertissements. "The aim of this tour is to perform in many cities where we can't show our big produc-

tions for technical reasons." says Natalya Bessmertnova, the veteran ballerina - and wife of Bolshoi artistic director Yuri Grigorovich — who is heading the lineup of Bolshoi "stars". While they are in Britain, other so-called "stars" of the Bolshoi will be on tour

in Israel and South Korea. The 50-plus Bessmertnova, who is expected to dance every night for the entire 14 weeks of the British tour, is aware of the danger inherent in over-exposure, but shrugs off any suggestion of rivalry from the smaller companies. "I think there are too many Russian companies but I also think our company from the Bolshoi Theatre shouldn't be worried about the competition. Already two of the companies which toured here last year have died naturally, they no longer exist.
"When there is too much of

something it is not so interesting anymore and surely it's better when artists do come rarely. But soon the very small companies will stop touring, while touring by the big companies will be rare."

till, the fact remains that Russian companies now need lucrative foreign touring more than ever before: for some of them, like Moscow City Ballet, their survival depends upon it. But there must be a limit to how many versions of Swan Lake and Sleeping Beauty the British public will buy.

Perhaps that is why Yuri Grigorovich has devised a novel offering for his five-week Albert Hall season: he is rechoreographing 13 classical ballets for the 5,000-seat venue (including his own Spartacus) to create shortened versions that will give his company the dubious advantage of being able to present three full-length ballets in one evening by compressing each into less than an hour.

● The Stars of the Bolshoi Ballet open at the Dominion Theatre, (071-580 9562) London WI on Monday: Moscow City Ballet is at the Opera House, Manchester (061-236 9922), this week and at Sadier's Wells (071-278 8916).

TELEVISION REVIEW

Imagination is a growth area for children

hildren's television today is a largely raucous area of activity which, overheard by adults, resembles a ten-year-old's birthday party held in a jelly factory and attended by several pop groups. Thank the good fairy, then, for the arrival of The Lowdown, a documentary series for and about children which began on BBC 1 yester-

day afternoon. This has a markedly refreshing approach. First it sounds as if it has at least heard of the Noise Abatement Society. And although it uses animated images as a backdrop for the children's stories, there is mercifully no sign of the multiplemessages so beloved of the BBC's "yoof" department, notably via the use of captions which often come street-

portering across the screen. Part one of The Lowdown was called "You've Got A Friend" and dealt with that fascinating prop of many a childhood, the imaginary pal. Happily there were no psychologists to say what it all meant. There were instead children telling us who their friends were and what they did and why they mattered. And there was Alan Ayckbourn to catch a passing adult eye, who talked about professional inspiration from his friend Tim who used to sit beside him at the dinner table.

imaginary friends appear to be mainly a feminine trait. Most of the children interviewed were girls, unless of course girls are more willing to talk about such matters, boys being notoriously insensitive to all but the gang viewpoint. Some friends demand more than others, and have more demanded of them, a realisation which is good training for adult life. Emma, for instance, is the friend of one little girl and she lives in the bathroom mirror. Emma is only there to he talked to.

Another child has an animal as a friend, but this animal can be all things to all enemies. Sometimes a cat, the

friend will turn into a lion if his inventor is being bullied at school. Not that bullies recognise invisible lions, but at least

a chance to act out what would

have happened to the bully, if Many strands from the tales we teach children are picked up in this fantasy world. There are hints of Peter Pan and Alice in Wonderland and even The Diary of Anne Frank, the inspiration for one child's own diary, written to an imaginary friend she calls April "because

it's a friendly month". Some of the structures in these invented worlds are complex. One girl of about 11 has turned an ambition to be a teacher into a three-dimensional structure which consists of a school made of cardboard and cut-out uniforms carefully shaded in colour.

She describes this school in precise terms, as if from a manifesto. It is a boarding school for girls with 200 pupils and 30 teachers, which implies a ratio not even the Liberal Democrats dare promise.

And, as with the other fantasies, it should not be patronised. Much of what these children create is clearly drawn from real experience and, as in the case of the school, acts as a critique of an existing situation. Idealised. certainly, but God forbid we should ever produce children with no sense of the ideal.

Loneliness seems to be much of the inspiration for these touching relationships, sometimes the need of a young child for an older sister: Stacey aged 7 has a friend called Jill. aged 16. And what do Stacey and Jill talk about? Why. "going to the pub", of course.

Ah, childhood: innocence reaching for the perceived trappings of maturity. Not that Stacey will find any shortage of people talking to imaginary friends when she graduates to the saloon bar.

PETER BARNARD

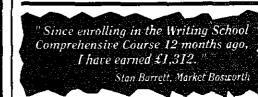


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The family way: Annette Bening portrays the notorious glamour-seeking gangster's moll Virginia Hill, with Warren Beatty as Bugsy Siegel in his new film Bugsy

Married to the mob

The fleeting glamour in the lives of Mafia women is 🤻 ilm stars, an army of outweighed by the brutality, Charles Bremner reports

reporters and an entourage of glossy gangsters all trooped daily into the Brooklyn court to watch the final act of John Gotti's reign as Godfaher husband's profession, includther of the New York Mafia. ing brief absences in prison, and However one figure never entered above all never asking questions. "I was never permitted to be in-volved," she told the New York the room: Victoria, his wife of 31 years. According to custom, a Mafia woman's place is the home. In these times of decadence in the Daily News. Her husband may be known to the world as a homicidal old-time Mob, when ranking

'wiseguys" are breaking the ancient codes of honour, dealing drugs, "ratting" on their bosses to the FBI and even shooting women. Mrs Gotti and her two daughters stand proudly in their traditional roles as invisible helpmates for their men. While her husband sat for three months in court, depicted in his own recorded words and by his own underboss as a murdering, foul-mouthed dictator of the underworld. Mrs Gotti sat silently in the couple's suburban home with the blinds drawn. She spoke only this tion guaranteed he would never leave prison again. "At least I know that I've had happy years with the man I love," she told a trusted reporter for the New York Daily News. "How many women do you know who can really say so?"

One of the couple's two daughters, Vicki Agnelli. 30, echoed her mother in the moments after Gotti's conviction last Thursday for murder and racketeering: "My father is the last of the Mohicans. They don't make men like him any more and they never will. That's the difference between him and everybody else."

Victoria DiGiorgio, dark and petite and now aged 50, unofficially married into the Mob in 1959. when she met John, a worker in New York's garment district who aspired to glory in the cosa nostra (Mafia). Her father, an employee in the city sanitation department, was none too pleased at her choice. As Gotti rose through the ranks of the Gambino clan, from street enforcer to feared overlord of the New York underworld. Victoria was the perfect wife, enduring the rigours of

chief executive of the cosa nostra, a man who could be heard in FBI tapes expressing his organisational credo "Every time we got a partner that don't agree with us, we kill him." But that is not Mrs Gotti's concern. "I'm an old-fashioned woman," she said. "I don't ask him what he does. All I know is, he provides. Thanks to a spate of memoirs and their Hollywood adaptation, much is now known of the lives of

Mafia women, a group which remains among the least liberated in American life. They split into two and sisters whom the soldiers swear to honour in those fabled initiation ceremonies which date back to the rituals of 12th-century Sicily. "Women are sacred," a don could be heard relling four new soldiers in a Connecticut blood ceremony recorded by the FBI and played in court last year. "The only way to get out of that is you die." The other type is the moll, the ornament on the mobster's arm, who has been glorified by Hollywood from prewar days through to Annette

Bening's current screen version of Virginia Hill, the Las Vegas mis-tress of Bugsy Siegel, portrayed in Warren Beatty's new film Bugsy. Despite Hollywood's fantasies about lethal females such as the hit woman played by Kathleen Turner in Prizzi's Honour, a floozy is never accepted as one of the wiseguys. Attracted by the glamour of power, her highest aspiration is merely to sleep with Mr Big and enjoy, for a time, his gifts and protection. As Judith Campbell Exner, mistress of the 1950s gangster Sam Giancana and of President Kennedy, put it, mobsters were usually fat older men, but the aura of danger and power is a potent aphrodisiac. Giancana, said Exner, was a better lover than the glamorous young

For its fleeting pleasures, life as a Mob moll has always been brutal and sordid. Nothing could better deter star-struck young hopefuls than the story of Arlyne Brickman, who was the concubine of hood-lums for four decades. In Mob Girl: A Woman's Life in the Underworld, published this month by Simon & Schuster, Ms Brickman tells how, as the daugh-

> 'I don't ask him what he does. All I know is he provides'

ter of a Jewish gangster in the days of Siegel and Meyer Lansky, she fell in love with the image of Virginia Hill after reading a news-paper description of her as "the most successful woman in Ameri-"In my eyes," says Ms Brickman,

"here was a broad that really made it good." After losing her virginity at 14 to an enforcer from the Bonanno clan. Ms Brickman became a "party girl". She carried out sexual favours for the infamous Joe Colombo and hundreds of others. Regularly beaten, raped and scorned, she managed to start a minor gambling business of her own and then exacted her revenge by acting as a police informer for a decade. She recorded conversations with leading figures of the underworld, among them John Gotti. After her heroin-addicted daughter died of Aids, she retreated with her dog to the anonymity of the federal witness programme. The dog, she reported, never returned her affection: "It was like loving a iseguy.": Life on the other side of the fence,

as a pampered Mafia wife, may be more secure and comfortable but the shortcomings are severe. In Mafia Marriage, published in 1990, Rosalie Bonanno, the wife of Salvatore "Bill" Bonanno who was the consigliere (counsellor) of the notorious family, says: "It means I can never ask questions such as Where are you going? or How did you get the money?." Mrs. Bonanno, the daughter of a senior gangster, lists the drawbacks of life as a Mafia princess; the main one being the need for unquestioning obedience to your man. There is no cheque-book, no bank account, no was met by the statement that "we His body was never found." do not divorce".

Being married to a Mr Big meant having the FBI watching your every move, questioning your children. "There were nights when my husband didn't come home and then one evening he would break into his own house, unob-served by the FBI, blindfold me and take me off to a motel or an empty house or the backseat of a car to make love. The blindfold was for my own good." Yet, says Mrs Bonanno in Mafia Marriage, for a woman born into the tradition, there is no other life.

Until recently, you could at least be sure of your safety as a Mafia woman, but that old rule was broken last month when hit men "whacked" Patricia Capozzalo, the sister of a capo (Mafia captain) in the Colombo family who had broken the omerta (vow of silence) and betrayed his associates, including Gotti, to the prosecutors. Mrs Capozzalo survived with five bullets in her back.

Then two weeks ago, the FBI arrested three other maliosi and

charged them with among other things, plotting the murder of the wife of Sammy Gravano, the lieutenant who betrayed Gotti and spent nine days chroniding his life as a state witness in his trial. Mrs Gravano was under the Gambinos' protection, according to police, because she had done the "decent" thing and denounced her husband for his treason.

By all accounts, including the evidence of the surveillance teams and tapes, Gotti always lived up to his role of devoted husband and patriarchal model. "He did not fool around with other women," an FBI officer said. He proved his devotion in 1980 when a neighbour accidentally ran down and killed their 12-year-old son Frank as he was riding his bicycle in the street. According to police, Mrs Gotti went into a prolonged state of mourning, setting up a shrine to the boy and could not forgive the neighbour John Favara. Favara was last seen later that year being

rs Gotti now has reason to fear for her family, say the gangland experts, and perhaps for herself because they expect a ruthless struggle for power in the Gambinos. One of the candidates for control is said to be John junior, the couple's 28-year-old son. Mrs Gotti is not afraid about the safety of her men, she told the New York Daily News, but she spoke with unusual bitterness. Johnny doesn't understand that if he is sent to life in prison, it's a life sentence for me as well as for my children. He always tells me. 'This is my fight. I want you and the children out of it.'

"But it's not really his fight. We're talking about my life. Although he is not with us, his moods are affecting us. He calls me every evening around 9.30. If his mood is good, my mood is better. If he is in a bad mood, it ruins my day.
"Just thinking about the possibil-

ity that Johnny is never coming back makes me want to die." -

MANWATCHING

Sporting table talk

A male table tennis player is a reassuring,

but occasionally mysterious, creature

Hull, watching four men bat a small ball back and forth across a table. The table is a few feet away across the main sports hall. The Woodford Leisure Centre is remarkable because the man who gave it its name ten years ago. Councillor Harry Woodford, is not. as is the tradition, dead, but very much alive. Indeed, he is still as alert as the day when, a decade ago. the Leisure Services Committee of Hull City Council voted to name the city's new leisure centre after their esteemed chairman, Councilfor Harry Woodford. Harry is not present, but I know he is proud, because tonight his centre is staging an international fixture. England are playing Austria at

ping pong.

I have arrived late, entering Harry's fun palace at the interval in time for the pong, but I am assured that the ping has thrilled the few hundred people present. A men's doubles match begins, featuring Carl Prean, England's top-ranked table tennis player.

Being a keen devotee of the ways of the table, I watch Carl carefully. I detect that, aside from the facts he; a) hits the ball very hard; b) spins the ball so much that its flight is as unpredictable as a paper aero-

Carl's little

two-finger

salute is

saying, 'I'm

ping-ponger

in the UK'

plane's, and; c) almost always gets the ball back over the net and on to his opponent's half of the table. Carl's technique is not so different from the one I have developed over long hours of practice across a trestle at home.

Indeed, for men who like sport but despair of sportsmen with their extravagant muscles

and precocious skills, their wildly expensive equipment and their cliquey, exclusive habits, they are reassuring men to watch, these ping-pongers. For one thing, pingpongers are normal-sized. To be sure, Ding Yi, the leading Austrian player, has an unnaturally well-muscled bottom, but then he is 33, it is not as if he was born with it that way. Hard work in a grown man I can accept. Large reference books surgically implanted in the thighs of a 16-year-old, as happens with some footballers and athletes, I cannot.

Ding's team-mates and English opponents all look suitably unaltered. They have not, as far as I can shirts or cavity wall foam injected into their underwear. This is encouraging.
Carl, if anything, has an unath-

letic physique. He is tall, ungainly, with immense flat feet and normal, erratically-haired legs. I warm to the man. He plays with a plain bat, logo and graphite-free. He even joins in the search for the ball when a wayward forehand pings it among the crowd. Carl wears a loose-fitting top with a cardboard collar, like a darts shirt, and sky-biue silky shorts like nappies. His face is red with exertion. Clearly, he is one of us.

And he behaves like we do, too. When Carl hits a bad shot he examines his bat and sulks, scrutinising the bobbly red stuff at the tip of the bat, fingering the join of handle and paddle. When he puts away a flamboyant smash, he blows his fringe and stalks around a bit. Taking the lead in a tight game, he draws his clenched fist and top lip towards towards his nose, forearm tense, bicep straining through the nylon, firing himself up. Carl plays good

Friday night finds me in the Woodford Leisure Centre in ble tennis. He stands away from the ble tennis. He stands away from the table and does those astonishing returns from 20ft back and the ball an inch from the floor, the kind I imagine I could do if the furniture permitted. The crowd gasps. And Carl knows the form: he holds his bat up

in apology if he flukes a winner from a net cord or the side of the table. At home, I reckon to do this, too; if a shot hits an encrusted lump of, say, wallpaper paste and accelerates unplayably into a pot plant, then the etiquette is just the same, "Sorry about the wallpaper paste shot, Dave!". "No problem Bob, they even out, do those paste shots". So I watch Carl as he prepares to serve. looking for his secret. His partner. Geoff Cooke, creuchs be-hind him, Carl bends low. He bounces the ball. McEnroe-style. One bounce, two bounces. Then he cradles the ball into his stomach in his left hand, a good foot below the

table, sticks two fingers in the air-very quickly, then flips the ball up, and serves it Sticks two fingers up? No. surely not. I look again. Crouch. bend, ready, pause, two fingers, throw, serve. Why is he doing that? I wonder. Is he being rude to the Austrians? Not very sporting - and, frankly, a little immature, with

all these people watching in a bigtime match. And some of them children.

booms around

I look across at the umpire, a seri-ous man in a blue Amateur Table Tennis Association blazer. He dutches the best male his microphone. Has he seen? No -his amplified breathing remains perfectly steady as it

> Harry Woodford's premature monument. Should I tell him? No. better not, don't want to cause a scene. And, anyway, maybe Carl is pushing the McEnroe comparison and gesturing to the umpire. I watch and wait. wondering why our national table tennis champion is behaving in such an ungentlemanty way.

Carl must be signalling to Geoff. telling him where his serve will go. But no, it is always two fingers, so how would that help Geoff? And, why bother anyway - anyone who has seen a table tennis table knows that the service must land in an area about the size of the average office desk. Even if you are good enough, as Carl obviously is, to put the ball where you want it to go and to tell your partner in advance. what is the point? You can hardly serve an ace at table tennis - the dimensions of the table preclude it. There are just not enough options. The opponent knows this. So does Geoff. Why tell him? I ponder.

And then I realise that Carl is signalling — not to Geoff — but to us. his audience. Carl's little two-finger salute is saying, "You think I'm just like you. with my red face and my naff shirt, but no! I'm the best male ping-ponger in the UK, ranked 12th in Europe. Watch this and discuss among yourselves what on earth it means!" And then I know that Carl is not

so ordinary, that he knows that this little arcane gesture sets him above the keen amateurs in the crowd who have been thinking, as I have, "I could do thar": that this obscure, under-the-table pantomime is simply Carl making his mark, making his point, when he has the chance, as all men must do. Councillor Harry Woodford would understand perfectly.

ROBERT CRAMPTON

TOM STODDART/KATZ

Albanian women have never had contraception: will new abortion laws improve their health?

hpresa, a 35-year-old Albanian woman, has had two children, six illegal abortions and is waiting to undergo her first legal abortion in Tirana's maternity

Contraceptive methods are unknown in Albania, though the first condoms recently appeared on the booming black market and relief agencies say contraceptives are a priority. During the four decades that Albania withered under Europe's harshest communist rule, abortions were forbidden because the country's leadership wanted to ensure that there would be enough bodies to defend the country. But one of the first laws to be passed by the country's coalition government last summer was one that gave women the right to - choose. The law was intended to stop the stream of dangerous, and sometimes fatal, unqualified abortions endured by Albanian women.

But the priority given to the new law was also an acknowledgement that in this country where suffering has been long and universal, women have had perhaps the roughest time

Women go last

Almost no statistics are available but doctors and foreign relief workers in the country say Albanians' general health is the worst in Europe, though life expectancy tops 70 years for men and women, according to the United Nations development programme. Determining the effects of the country's increasingly desperate economic situation is almost impossible because no one is conducting studies, says Figiri Kasollja, a doctor and the director of health care at the Albanian health ministry.

But two indices on women show the trend. The fertility rate in Albania is 3.0 compared with 1.9 and 1.6 in neighbouring Greece and Yugoslavia respectively. In the past five years, the number of premature births has risen from 7 to 11 per cent, says Dr Kenneth Wind-Anderson, the director of the World Health Organisation's programme in

In fact, all one has to do is

realise that she is not in good health. Almost without exception women appear older than they are, and their often yellowish skins show signs of vitamin deficiency and poor nutrition. Meat, fruits and vegetables have in the past decade been increasingly difficult to come by. The typical daily diet in Albania consists of flour, sugar, rice, oil and butter, items that have always been the backbone of Albanian meals but are no longer being processed or produced and are instead supplied under Italy's food aid programme.

In addition, say doctors and aid workers, women are expected to carry the greater burden of work in the home even when they are pregnant.
"Enver Hoxha spoke of emancipation of women but it was only so women could contribute more to the totalitarian patriarchal produc-tion, says Natasha Lako, a

writer and Democratic party

parliamentarian, one of the

few women in Albanian poli-

tics. As in the former Soviet Union and Eastern bloc countries, nearly all women work outside the home and are responsible for running the house. Conveniences such as washing machines and refrigerators are seen in only a few homes and are non-existent in the rural mountain areas, where 70 per cent of the population live.

espite their poor health, the only time most of these women see a hospital is when giving birth. The country's network of clinics and hospitals handles 99 per cent of births, Dr Wind-Anderson says. Relief workers praise the reach of the health care system, but say conditions in clinics and hospitals are appalling. Most foreign relief aid is channelled to these institutions.

At the Tirana maternity hospital, which houses the newly opened abortion clinic and the obstetrics and gynaecology wards, hygiene appears to be lacking almost complete-

strewn with rubbish and bundles of sheets. A stray cat slinking through the hall is not an uncommon sight. There is no fuel for heating, though the temperature last winter often

ly. Floors are muddy and

dipped below freezing.
"Basically we lack every-thing," says Liljana Borothi, a surgeon, ticking off a list of desperately needed items: blankets, sheets, infant formulae and simple reagents such as methanol and ethanol for essential tests. Though prena-tal care is available throughout the country. Dr Borochi says most personnel are unqualified. Fetal monitoring is done with the stethoscope alone. Of the 8,000 deliveries in

this hospital each year. 1,200 are caesarian sections. Dr Borochi says, though recently only one operating theatre which had run out of oxygen - was working because the ceiling had collapsed in the other one. Abortions and other surgery are performed with instruments that are sterilised only with boiled water or in an autoclave whose efficacy is

doubtful, Dr Borochi says. Tests for the HIV virus are not done in the maternity hospital because it lacks the



Out in front for the first time in four decades: supporters at a Democratic party rally

equipment and although no cases of Aids have been reported in Albania, several doctors are fearful of an epidemic Only one clinic in the country tests blood for the HIV virus and if, as some believe, many of the Albanian women who have gone to Italy are working as prostitutes, the virus could spread on their return.

The second secon

Abortions, which cost women the equivalent of two days' wages, are done without vacuum pumps, though Dr Borochi says infections have been rare. A family planning division has been set up by the health ministry.

"What sort of ways are there to stop from having more babies?" asked Shpresa, who

says she cannot afford to have more children.

When Dr Borochi suggests that women should try to have intercourse only during infertile times of the month, the women burst into laughter. Doctor, you don't know our husbands," Shpresa says.

BRENDA FOWLER:

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WATCHING

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Alla Ara

nis player is a reasoung innie Mandela was a little young to be ly mysterious, creature just 24 when she married Nelson Mandela in June 1958. He was the African National Helman and Arthur Congress leader on trial for treason, she a newly-qualified medical social worker at Soweto's Baragwanath Hospital. After several more trials.

> Winnie Mandela's trial had begun. Already she was not allowed to leave the Johannesburg district, she had to give up her job, she was not allowed to be on school premises once her children went to school. In the course of the next 20 years she would be repeatedly arrested, charged, convicted and jailed. Even her biographers lost count of the

> litany of harassment.
> In 1977 she was banished to the dusty "location" — a small black township — of an isolated rural town called Brandfort. This alien environment gave her new resolve; she used the interest of the outside world - embassies, churches, antiapartheid groups — to bring to Brandfort location a crèche, soup kitchens, vegetable gardens, her own child welfare expertise . . .

In adversity and under duress, Mrs Mandela became a symbol for a nation. Before she was 50, she was being called "mama Africa" mother of the African people. In exile, Mrs Mandela carried the title

with dignity and courage.

In August 1985, her Brandfort home was fire-bombed. She moved back into the cramped Soweto home in which she and her husband lived before he was jailed, but was forcibly removed by the security police. She returned again and again, only to be arrested again and again. She finally won the war of nerves in February 1986, when all charges of breaking her banning orders were dropped.

But she had not emerged unscathed from her years in exile. Precisely because of her defiance, it seemed, she had developed a fiery style that rubbed the salt of bitterness into the wounds of her anger.

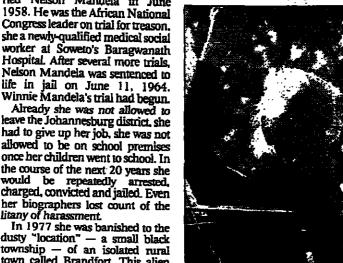
In April 1986, she delivered a speech in which she is alleged to have said that the nation would be liberated by matches and necklaces the gruesome method of killing by which a petrol-soaked tyre is placed around a victim's neck and set alight. She later denied the allegation - she had been quoted

out of context, she said. But history has proven that, if the statement was out of context, it was

very much in character. Over the next five years, Mrs Mandela became the bully-boy of the left. She surrounded herself with a gang of toughs known as the Mandela United Football Club. They functioned as her body-

How the saint became a sinner

Arthur Goldstuck on why Winnie Mandela could not live up to the title of 'mama Africa'



House arrest: Helen Joseph

In adversity and under duress Mrs Mandela became a symbol for a nation, mother of the African people

guards, and occasionally played soccer against any team that would risk the consequences of winning. Their coach, Jerry Richardson, was not in the business of soccer;

after the disappearance of club member and teenage activist Stompie Moeketsi Sepei, and the discovery of his body on February 9, 1989, Richardson was tried and found guilty of murder. The evi-dence delivered during this trial led to the conviction, two years later, of Mrs Mandela.

The sublime, demure woman of the Brandfort days had given way to a shrill, domineering and dangerous presence. The suburban rooms, where the liberal socialite hostesses delighted in up-staging each other with their dis-play of politically "infamous" guests, became a no-go area for Mrs Mandela. She was just too dangerous for even the most opportunist of the white elite.

She no longer slotted in so easily among all those other "mama Africas": Helen Joseph, a co-trea-son trialist with Nelson Mandela in the 1950s and the first white woman to be placed under house arrest: Albertina Sisulu, the wife of



Dangerous presence: over the past few years Mrs Mandela became the bully-boy of the left

Walter Sisulu, the deputy president of the ANC, and herself charged with high treason in 1985; Ruth Mompati, exiled for 28 years and today a member of the ANC national executive committee: Sister Bernard Ncube, teacher, nun. leader of the now-defunct United Democratic Front, with numerous

arrests and detentions to her "credit"; Gertrude Shope, women's activist exiled for 24 years, now the president of the ANC Women's League: Mamphele Ramphele, who had a son with Steve Biko, the black consciousness leader (born after Biko's death in a police cell), and who is today the vice-chancel-

lor of the University of Cape Town. Some of these fell into politics by dint of their husband's profiles, and then took up the challenge in their own personal styles; others were always activists, proving that women were as effective as men often more so - in the struggle against injustice in South Africa.



High treason: Albertina Sisulu

After her conviction a graffiti wall was daubed with the slogan, 'Mugger of the Nation'

They never saw themselves as feminists - and thus never marginalised themselves on the pages of South Africa's political history. Their struggle was as women, but for justice. Nevertheless, the "mama Africas" became role models for women.

But it has been a long time since anyone referred to Winnie Mandela as the mother of the nation. Quite the contrary: after her conviction a popular graffiti wall near Johannesburg's liberal University of the Wirwatersrand was daubed with the slogan, "Mugger of the Nation".

The appeal against her conviction is still to be heard, and there has been widespread speculation among those who praised the verdict that justice may lose out in the end: that Mrs Mandela will remain innocent, proven too powerful to be guilty.

In that light, the "domestic squabble" that saw her throw out her co-convicted domestic worker, Xoliswa Falati, proved a godsend to the Winnie-bashers. The Sunday Times reported this week that Falati had made numerous allegations against Mrs Mandela: allegations that, if proved true, will make the kidnappings seem like a picnic

Falati claims that confronted by a drunken Winnie Mandela brandishing a Makarov pistol, she ran to Nelson Mandela to intervene. He reinstated her in her backyard shack, but also asked her to tell the ANC everything she knew. What she "knew" included a his-list drawn up by Mrs Mandela and her involvement in various murders. According to The Sunday Times. this proved the last straw for the Mandela marriage.

owever, speculation in South Africa is that. while Nelson Mandela will keep his distance from his wife - physically and politically - a divorce is out of the question. The symbolic significance of their marriage is not the least of the reasons. It was always held up as a classical romance of the apartheid era. So much so that Hugh Masekela wrote as the chorus to one of his songs the line "I want to see him Nelson

Mandelal walking down the streets of South Africa. I want to see him walking hand in hand with Winnie Mandela". If the Mandela marriage were to end in tatters, a small piece of the dream of democracy would die with it.

To vilify Winnie Mandela is easy - she provides the ammunition herself. It is equally easy to forget that she did once represent so much of what was beautiful and sublime in the struggle against apartheid. The strong, loyal wife, moving heaven and earth to visit her husband in a distant jail, the communal worker ignoring her own plight to bring comfort to the grey matchbox houses of a repressed community, the dotting mother, sacrificing all for the education and safety of her children; and mother of the nation. weeping bitter tears for victim after victim of an insane ideology.

"These women were heroines worthy of Tolstoy", wrote James Lelyveld of Winnie Mandela and Ramphele Mamphele in his Pulitzer Prize winning work on South Africa, Move Your Shadow.

Winnie Mandela was not any better than any of the other women activists who kept the fires of defiance burning while the male leaders languished in jail.

The difference is, the others survived their years in exile. Winnie Mandela - or at least the Winnie Mandela the world came to know in her three decades as mother of the nation - did not. That Winnie Mandela died somewhere in the late 1980s, arguably from the emotional wounds sustained during exile. While her critics delight in her latest fall, it is a time of mourning for those who loved her.

No place for a lady member

The election campaign has not only sent the country's legions of politicians out on to the campaign trail, but has also mobilised another dedicated army - the 1,300 Conservative clubs throughout the UK.

At the last general election Conservative clubs supported their party to the tune of £250.000; a similar contribution is expected now. During a campaign the clubs offer accommodation, free meals and use of telephones.

Much of the fund-raising and organisation that goes on in Conservative clubs is due to the help of women. The support of this hidden army is vital, but although women have the vote, not all will have one in their club.

Seventy-five per cent of Conservative clubs are said to offer full or associate membership allowing women use of facilities, although they cannot be on the committee and cannot vote. How many of that 75 per cent offer full voting membership is anyone's guess, as the Association of Conservative Clubs (ACC) does not issue figures for publication. How-ever. out of 50 UK clubs chosen at random, only half offered women full member-

Margaret Dupont MBE, the secretary of the ACC. described the remaining 25 per cent as "still making up their minds". In the meantime they do not offer women any form of membership at all. Many male members are Conservative clubs rely on the tireless work of women, but

many still refuse them a vote

far from happy with this inequality. One club steward from the East Midlands, who did not wish to be named, "We gave our ladies associate membership ten years ago, it saved the club. They still don't have a vote, it's ridiculous. A man can bring a dog into the snooker room, but

not a woman.' Many Conservative clubs were formed as all-male establishments before women attained the vote and, as each is run on a private basis, they can

apply membership rules as they see fit. And positive discrimination is not favoured by Conservatives. Miss Dupont says: "The association would be 'delighted' if every club admitted ladies, but it's stupid to force them. You get a better response the way we are doing it, gently, gently."

Last year, uproar ensued when Labour disclosed that its National Executive Committee had approved a plan to ban all-male clubs, should it gain power. And the ACC's gently.



Room at the top: Mrs Thatcher would be admitted

gently approach is not shared by the 150 Labour clubs affiliated to the party. They must sign a declaration that includes an undertaking not to discriminate on the grounds of race, colour or sex. The remaining 290 unaffiliated clubs can do as they please. There are no figures as to the type of membership offered.

Bernard Dooley, the general secretary of the National Union of Labour and Socialists Clubs, shares Miss Du-pont's view. "I would like to see women as full voting members in all our clubs. Unfortunately, unaffiliated

clubs can do what they want." Could Margaret Thatcher technically be incligible for full voting membership of a Conservative club? "Absolutely not," Miss Dupont says. "The situation would not be allowed to occur. She always respected their rules and never, never took umbrage if they told her it was an all-male club."

What does Mrs Thatcher think? In December John Whittingdale, then her political secretary, said on her behalf that "she would like to see Conservative clubs open to both sexes and regrets that some still do not admit women". Should she wish to join her home town Conservative Club of Grantham, no doubt they would make her an honorary member. The club does not offer women full voting membership either.

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Booming business

DRAGONS of Walton Street, the London nursery furniture shop, started trading during the recession of the early 1980s. Now, when so many other businesses are folding, it is poised for worldwide expansion, says Giles Fisher, its managing director. The onceexclusive company, which has customers around the world, is selling franchises for its range of hand-painted, personalised furniture. A Dragons of Walion Street has already opened in Oslo, Norway. The Fisher family, which founded the company, hopes to see one

AND BRIEFLY

everywhere from Hull to Hendon (not to mention New York, Paris, Rome and Tokyo) by the end of the year. They hope to entice people to a business expected to thrive, partly because of the baby boom among older parents with higher disposable in-comes. Full franchises are cheap at £10,000. Details from Giles Fisher at Dragons, PO Box 405. Henfield, West Sussex BN5 9BG (0273-494908).

Label laws

MICROWAVE oven owners will become more label-conscious when the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and

Food's voluntary labelling system comes into effect on ovens and food packs this year. The labels are designed to ensure the efficient cooking of prepared ready-made meals. Free leaslets explaining the labels are available from MAFF's Food Sense division (London SE99 7TP, telephone 081-694 8862) and a free helpline is at the Food Safety Advisory Centre on

0800-282 407. DIY shiatsu

THE latest DIY book of complementary medicine is an Introductory Guide to Shiatsu by Chris Jarmey, published tornorrow by Thorsons

Green, ITV's drama series, will have been introduced to tne therapeutic Oriental art of shiatsu. The book gives a hands-on guide to massaging for many ailments, suggesting that it could prevent common colds and cure constitution. But it cautions amateurs that "it takes a minimum of three years to become a proficient practitioner with developed diagnostic skills". Also included are details of where to receive tuition, as well as treatments from practitioners registered by the European Shiatsu School, the British School of Shiatsu and Oriental Medicine, and a dozen

reputable schools in the UK. VICTORIA MCKEE

Pitted against quarries

heritage campaigners hope that a public enquiry which opened in the West Country yesterday will be-come a virtual referendum on minerals and aggregates extraction in an area of great natural beauty.

The enquiry has started as national concern grows about the impact on the landscape of quarrying limestone, basalt and gravel, sand and granite for road building and construction.

Residents have formed protest groups to fight planning appli-cations, especially in the big Thames Valley. East Anglia, east Midlands and southwest mineral

Fuelling the concern are recent government commissioned figures that forecast a rise in demand for aggregates of 66 per cent by the year 2011: from 300 million to 500 millior, tonnes a year.

The estimates have become a source of heated debate between the industry and environmental groups such as the Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE). The CPRE claims that unless action is taken soon, areas of outstanding beauty and scientific importance will come under the digger, harming villagers' lives and damaging wildlife habitats and archaeological sites.

The group underscores its fears with a report commissioned from John Adams, at University College. London, estimating that if the new forecasts are met "from the beginning of the century to 2011 the amount of aggregate extracted ... amounts to an 8 billion cubic metre

hole in the ground". The campaigning has not gone unnoticed by the industry. Jerry McLaughlin, economist for BACMI, the London-based trade federation, says: "During the past 18 months there has been a more co-ordinated approach by groups such as the CPRE. They are anti-

quarrying but they also object to the construction that requires the aggregates in the first place."

The enquiry that began in the Somerset town of Frome yesterday. about quarrying in the Mendip Hills, sets groups including the CPRE, the Somerset Trust for Nature Conservation and the Mendip Society against ARC, one of the country's aggregate-extraction companies. The battle centres on ARC's request for planning permis-sion to extend Whatley quarry, near Mells, Somerset, in the east Men-

Campaigners daim that the extra 125 acres being sought by the company threaten landscape and water supplies to farms and Frome which come from sources including the Oldford borehole.

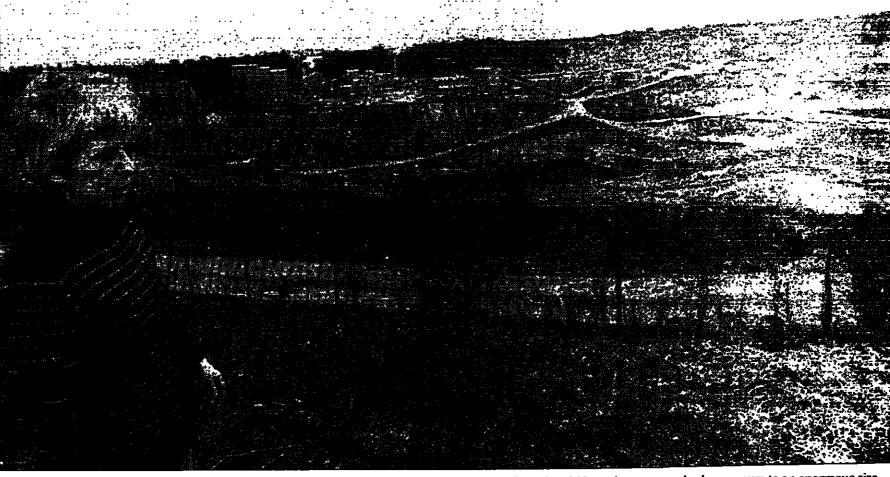
ARC, which has headquarters in Chipping Sodbury, Avon, argues that its existing limestone reserves will be exhausted in five years at present production rates of four to six million tonnes a year and that 350 local jobs would be directly at risk. The company has made pledges, including tree planting and screenings to hide the quarry extension, as well as protecting water supplies. However, Mary Viggiani, the CPRE's local

campaigner, says: 'Estimates We want an overall view cause quarrying in the arguments' east Mendips. Since the 1960s some quarries

have grown to an enormous size. There are now three large quarries. including ARC's, within half a mile of each other. If they continue we will soon have no Mendip hills, just a nasty continuous canyon."

At the villages of Croft and

Huncote in the Soar flood plain of Leicestershire, similar concerns are being aired. There, English China Clays, another of Britain's big extraction companies, wants to



Enough is enough: Mary Viggiani, a campaigner, says the east Mendips have been quarried since the 1960s and some quarries have grown to an enormous size

extend quarrying operations to Croft Hill, a 200ft granite mound, which holds about 30 million tonnes of gravel and may have been the Mesomphalos or sacred hill of the druids. Jo Clarke, a member of the Croft Hill Action Group, says: "The hole they want to make will be

deep enough to fit the Eiffel Tower. There is enough reserve in the existing site for the next 25 years." The company

has promised to build a hill nearby to replace Croft Hill. Mrs Clarke, however, described a similar man-made hill near Huncote as "just a mound of earth on which only thistles grow ... Croft Hill is not only historic and an absolutely beautiful landscape feature but it has loads of wild flowers". Leicestershire County Council is expected to decide on the planning applica-

In a 27-acre field at Throop

Clump near the village of Briantspuddle, Dorset, another campaign is being waged. English China Clays wants planning permission to extract 225,000 tonnes of gravel. Paul Badcock, a retired naval officer and organiser of Residents Against Gravel Extraction (Rage),

said their campaign has the back-ing of English Nature and local and overseas naturalist and heritage groups. Captain Badcock said that if permission were granted an area of outstanding landscape value would be destroyed and that the rural roads that heavy haulage lorines

would use were not only unsuitable but ran through two Sites of Special Scientific Interest. He said that nearby Turners Puddle Heath "is one of the largest continuous areas of lowland heath remaining in Europe ... with habitats for many rare and endangered birds. mammals, reptiles and flora".

The thrust of these growing number of campaigns is that the existing national policy is led by

supply rather demand, putting pressure on county councils to grant planning permission for more sites. Ben Plowden, CPRE minerals

campaigner, says: "Forecasts are based on the predict and produce principle; in other words, that minerals demand will increase. The only decision to 'We will soon be taken is therefore how to meet have no

The group highlights the case of East An-Mendip Hills' glia, where a regional working group comprised of industry and county councils responded last week to government

demand.

Norfolk has cut its estimate for house building by 20,000 dwellings, which is not reflected in the supply predictions. Councils are also required to hold aggregate banks equal to ten years supply even during times of diminishing

economic and construction activity. Bernie Marfleet, a minerals officer with Norfolk County Council, confirmed that these requirements increased pressures to grant planning

The CPRE is calling for more use of recycled aggre-gates including demolition, slate. china clay and

About 10 per

cent or 30 million

tonnes of recycled

aggregates are group believes could be significantly increased by pricing fresh materials — about £4 to £5 a tonne —

This would also give raise more funds to restore countryside after extraction operations have ceased and lead to less waste. Roughly 15 per cent of aggregates delivered to a building site is wasted, campaign-

Such assertions are doubted by the industry, which rejects the claim that quarrying and extraction is supply-led. "Developing a quarry is very expensive. If an individual company gets planning permission, it will also sit down and work out its own minerals forecasts before going ahead." Mr McLaughlin says. He also claimed that even if prices were raised they would still remain a small part of construction costs and that designers prefer to work with materials with proven specifications. He said that studies were being carried out by the Building Research Establishment to see how recycled materials performed but that their use could probably climb only to 50

At Whatley quarry such views anger people like Mrs Viggiani: "We have been fighting against the industry's too quick, too cheap approach. All that is left now in parts of the east Mendips are great wet holes. It is critically important that we stop this extension."

Diabetes danger in a taste of Chinese

additive, since investigations showed that it stimulates neural transmitters. the chemical transmitters of impulses within the central nervous system. Yet glutamate still used, especially in

Chinese cooking. Although we can all probably endure a little stimulation of the brain, glutamate is now in more trouble. For the first time, scientists have found that glutamate affects the secretion of insulin by the pancreas, suggesting the additive may be involved in the pathology of sugar diabetes without anybody having been aware of it.

Dr Joel Bockaert's team at the Centre for Pharmacology and Endocrinology in Montpellier, France, has been working with scientists at the Loubatieres Laboratory of Pharmacology and Pharmacodynamics, also in Montpellier. Their experiments show that glutamate binds with receptors in the pancreas and stimulates the organ's secretion of insulin, thus upsetting the regulation of glucose levels in the blood.

Scientists have

found new cause for caution over

a food additive

The French scientists underline the relevance of their discovery by pointing out that glutamate is already known to bind with at least three different receptors in the central nervous system. They indicate that glutamate may do more than cause headaches; that it is implicated in the death of nerve cells and pathologies of neuronal degeneration.

Glutamate can interact in this way because part of the substance, part of its molecule, is an amino acid — glutamic acid — and a natural unit of proteins, of which all living things are made.

The French scientists treated the pancreases of rats, in vitro, with glutamate. The result was an immediate increase in the secretion of insulin. Such an increase in our bodies would normally be caused by an increase of glucose in the blood.

pended on the concentra tion of glucose in the blood. the increased secretion of insulin continued even when the level of glucose in the blood

The researchers managed to identify the receptor involved in the pancreas. It is a type already known — AMPA — but its identification marks the first time a receptor for glutamate has been studied outside the central nervous system. No research on the subject

has been done in Britain, although Sandor Erdo, a Hungarian scientist working in Sweden, has reviewed the subject in theory. He postulated that glutamate should be interacting with the pancreas and other organs, such as the hormone secreting adrenals and the pineal gland. Therefore glutamate may be in even more trouble, given a little research on these organs.

It has been suggested that the possible adverse effects of glutamate may greatly depend on the health of the consumer. Healthy people may be in no danger. The French scientists



Fresh doubts are raised on the use of glutamate

believe, however, that glutamate will be accepted as a factor in the pathology of sugar diabetes, a belief supported by the fact that glutamate is already implicated in some pathological conditions of the central nervous system.

Since diabetes is a major public health problem and glutarnate a widely used ingre-dient in cooking, the research in France may be followed up

by groups elsewhere.

SCIENCE UPDATE

ers claim.

Rhino auction

FIVE black rhinoceroses, a species either extinct or endangered in most of Africa, are eing auctioned to the highest bidder by the Natal Parks Board in South Africa. The rhinos could cost a buyer £250,000, if past prices are any guide. In a similar auction last

year, five black rhinos went to a South African industrialist with a private game farm for about that sum. The board. whose management pro-grammes of both black and white rhinos, have been highly successful, will use the money to fund conservation projects.

Potential bidders have to offer to buy all five rhinos so they can breed and the eventual buyer has to guarantee that they will be safe from

MS advance

poachers.

A FATHER whose daughter suffers from multiple sclerosis has developed a bed-mounted bike that is helping to combat the detrimental effects of paralysis. Sufferers of the nerve-dis-

ease can find their legs con-EDWARD ASHPOLE tracting and ending up under says: "If the electronic vest is their buttocks, which can turned on, the wearer can

standard excercise bike and added a small electric motor. powered from the mains. Rose-Marie, his daughter, is now able to lie on her back in bed and exercise her legs with Stun shirt

harm circulation. Val How-

ells, of Narberth, south Pem-

brokeshire, has adapted a



A FACTORY is taking on China's rising crime rate with a high-tech invention that criminals may find shocking. In Shijiazhuang, capital of Hebei Province, a factory has obtained state patents for a high-voltage "self-defence vest", a wearable cousin of the electric stun gun. A Chinese newspaper report

overpower attackers by giving them electric shocks."

The vest's designers at the Shijiazhuang Electrical Appliance Factory and the State Patent Office say the garment is safe for wearers and muggers alike.

According to the newspaper, "the patentees said the vest would not hurt the wearer and would disable attackers for only a short while."

Fish story

JAPANESE catfish appear able to predict when earthquakes are about to strike. scientists at the Tokyo Metropolitan Marine Experimental Station claim.

Seven fish, which have been studied for 16 years, consistently pepped up several days before 31 per cent of earth-quakes that registered "quite strong" on the Japanese earthquake scale.

Five or six of the fish perked up before 60 to 70 per cent of the quakes, which is "better than a random association." Yasuo Baba, one of the scientists said.

The research, which last year cost £60,000, was started after references in old books and folk tales were found to claim links between catfish and earthquakes. Some scientists suspect that the fish pick up shifts in weak electrical fields in the Earth.



Typhoon in Japan: an effect that might have been predictable

Scientists may have the key to El Niño Climatologists have locked into information that Peruvian California and Texas. By now, the

BREAKING records is the essence of meteorological journalism. News of searing droughts, unprece dented floods and of the mercury plunging or soaring to untold levels is often reported, yet rarely, if ever, is any pattern discerned in these

Now climatologists are becoming increasingly convinced that many of these extremes can be linked to events in the tropical Pacific. They believe this occurs every few years as the sea surface temperature across the Pacific undergoes widespread and systematic changes. Peruvian fishermen have known since the 16th century that in some years their catches failed. The cause was warm water spreading southwards along the coast, shutting off the cold upwelling nutrient-rich water on which the fish feed.

Because the changes occurred around Christmas they were known as El Niño, Spanish for The Child. But their cause was found in changes that affected the whole of

the tropical Pacific. What happens is that an area of warmer than average water develops off the coast of Peru and over the next year or so spreads across the Pacific Linked with these changes, atmospheric pressure over Niño for at least a century. The

the eastern Pacific falls and rises over Australia and the Indian Ocean. The easterly trade winds that normally blow across the equatorial Pacific reverse, pushing warm water eastwards and cap-ping the cool water that usually

flows westwards along the equator.
The changes have worldwide effects because the tropical oceans act as the boiler driving the circulation of the global atmosphere. During an El Niño, the overall global temperature rises significantly, the Indian monsoon is delayed and severe drought afflicts

Indonesia, much of Australia, southern Africa and northern South America. Conversely, the southern United States, the western Pacific and the Peruvian and Ecuadoran coasts are deluged. Between successive El Niños, the

pattern is often reversed. This apparently well-organised response has excited climatologists. But not until the 1980s did these changes cease to be a climatic curiosity. In 1982 and 1983, the Pacific

was hit by the most extreme El

sheer size of the event made meteorologists realise that this phenomenon was indeed the most important fluctuation in the world's weather on a timescale of a few years.
Intensive studies and a subse-

fishermen knew in the 16th century - the effects of The Child

quent less extreme El Niño in 1986-87 helped to unravel how the atmosphere and the ocean

The changes have effects throughout the world'

interact to produce roughly regular fluctuations in the sea surface temperatures of the Pacific.

Not only did these studies produce believable models of El Niño. they suggested how these changes might extend far into the tropics and even influence North American winters.

By the end of the 1980s, the climatic modellers were convinced their computer simulations could

in a region to the region of the content of the con

predict the onset of an El Niño months or even years in advance. Lately, the models have been put to

In 1990 the behaviour of the Pacific began to look as if it was gearing up for an event. Though the computer models did not endorse the superficial reading of shifting wind patterns, the United States Weather Service went ahead with a forecast on the assumption of an El Niño. The service predicted the winter would be exceptionally cold in eastern North America and warm in the west.

In the event, El Niño did not materialise and the winter was almost the diametric opposite to that forecast - round one to the modellers.

By the summer of 1991, several models agreed in their forecast on an El Niño. At the same time Japan was being battered by a record number of typhoons. This time the forecasters heeded the models and produced a prediction that correctly foresaw the record warmth in the upper mid-west and western Canada, with floods in

modellers were convinced they had the key to predicting El Niño and the consequent abnormal weather. The implications of being able to predict broad weather patterns months ahead are vast. In tropical and sub-tropical regions, the behaviour of the equatorial Pacific exerts a great influence over whether or not the rainy season is particularly wet or dry. In the north Atlantic, El Niño years are marked by a low level of hurricane activity because the tropical Atlantic tends to be cooler than normal. But while last winter's forecast was a success, in the past the connections between the weather over North America and the El Niño have been less convincing. And there is little evidence that events in the Pacific have a significant effect

on British seasonal weather. This shows that though El Niño may be the biggest event on the global weather scene, there are other important "sideshows". Weather patterns may be more dependent on less well orchestrated sea surface temperature changes in the north and south Atlantic or other long-term fluctuations in the

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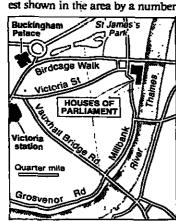
WEINTSDAY THE

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Ringing bells in Westminster

hris Patten has one. So does Teresa Gorman (halfway up the stairs) and Jonathan Aitken (in the hall). Come tomorrow's election result, there will be about 60 new MPs hoping to become one of the 200-odd MPs who live near enough to the Commons to have an electric 'division bell' in their homes, which signals the need for them to dash to the Commons to vote. About 60 other MPs will need to sell up. It's all change in the Westminster property market.

Estate agents are already reporting interest from prospective MPs about houses (for the Tory hopefuls) and flats (for the Labour ones). There has been considerable inter-



Served by the bell: the area covered by the division bell

Properties close enough to the House of Commons to be served by division bells

are now in demand, reports Rachel Kelly

either side of Victoria Street from

the station to the Houses of

Parliament is known, is no longer

In the past, 'division bell proper-

ties were at a premium because

they are situated within an eight-

minute walk from the Commons.

Now, voting times are largely

predetermined and predictable as

times. The bell no longer plays such an important part. The whips are

there to make sure MPs know

when their vote is needed, and

anyway, few votes are close enough

to necessitate the presence of all MPs, though this may change if we

A bell does have snob appeal,

bowever, enforcing a sense of

history and importance to the most mediocre mansion-block flat. "But

it doesn't add to the value of

property in the area," says Edna

Hunter from Hunter Estates which specialises in the area. "After all,

plenty of other people who are not MPs want to live there and they are

Far from it. The screech of the

bell is hardly designed to seduce non-political arrivals to the area.

The bell sounds like a fire-alarm,

says Teresa Gorman, MP for

have a hung parliament.

not interested in a bell."

Commons business is fitted into set

of prospective MPs," says Robert Bailey from Strutt & Parker's Westminster office. Mr Bailey is too discreet to name those bumptious candidates so certain of victory that they are already investigating the

Westminster property market. Equally, in anticipation of the new arrivals, lethargic sellers have now begun to put their houses on

Suddenly there has been a lot of activity in the area, with more good quality houses available than for some time past," says Mr Bailey. "In the Lord North Street and Smith Square area, for example, there are five houses for sale, whereas normally there would be

But at least some of this expectant glee is misplaced. Property-wise prospective candidates, and their retiring counterparts, know that the best place to advertise a Westminster house or flat is the inside back cover of The House, the Commons's in-house magazine. The ads target the right segment of the market and save on estate agency fees.

Equally, the need to live within the division bell square mile, as the area between Vauxhall Bridge Road, the river, Birdcage Walk and Billericay and resident of Lord North Street.

"I'm always in a tizzy as to whether to go upstairs where they put that ridiculous bell halfway up the wall and knock it off with my umbrella to spare everyone the noise, or to grab my coat and charge across the road," she says.

Like many other MPs, Mrs Gorman is wondering whether to swap her bell for a bleeper, thus widening the scope of where she could live. Though in theory you can fix a division bell anywhere, there is not much point in having one outside the immediate vicinity of Westminster. And it's expensive, costing about £400 to install, and £300 to service, plus £4 for the bell set. At least 15 MPs, shadow Chancellor John Smith among them, already live in the Barbican where the long arm of the division bell does not reach, relying on bleepers or phone calls instead.

Newcomers to Westminster, however, may wish to savour every Westminster tradition, including the division bell. Knight Frank & Rutley are selling a house in Tufton Street, round the corner from Conservative Central Office, for £395,000. Next door in Smith Square, the victorious and betterheeled might consider number 4, Lord North Street, a Georgian double-fronted corner house which was originally two separate ones, which were joined together before the first world war. It might just do for a budding cabinet mini



In a tizz: Teresa Gorman at home in Lord North Street

MARKET MOVES

Cottage fit for a poet

IT IS rare to find a village with its village shop still intact, but rarer still to find a listed village house nearby for sale for £158,000 and dating from the 14th century (Rachel Kelly writes). Add the fact that Chaucer House in the village of Bawdeswell in Norfolk once belonged to Geoffrey Chaucer's uncle, who was the local rector, and that the poet was said to have stayed in the house (a line from the Prologue to the Canterbury Tales mentions the village) and this is indeed a "best buy".

The market village of Reepham is about three miles to the east and the north Norfolk coast is 20 miles to the north. London is an hour and 40-minute train journey from Norwich, about a 25-minute drive. There is a reception hall, drawing room and dining room, kitchen. utility room, shower room, four bedrooms and two bathrooms.



Poet's corner: Chaucer House

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Wheeler dealer

Peugeot Talbot Motors is selling a 4.5-acre site half a mile from Coventry city centre. The site is almost covered by 167,000 sq ft of warehouses and a 9,000 sq ft, twostorey office block. Gerald Eve, the agent, hopes to raise £1 million. Bryant Properties has sold its industrial and retail warehouse investment, Maybrook Industrial Park, Leeds, to the Rolls Royce pension fund for £4.35 million. ● WH Smith has signed up for 13,000 sq ft at County Mall, a new

shopping centre in Crawley, Sussex. Owen Owen, BhS and Boots have already signed.

• A freehold holiday complex, Tros Yr Afon at Penmon, Anglesey, has been sold by J Trevor & Sons for the joint receivers of Wycombe Car Hire. The property includes a 16th-

century manor house with stables converted into holiday units. Markheath has completely let Hatfield Office Village, a new development next to the Hertford-shire town's station. Rents were £18 per sq ft with a rent-free period. ● The Royal Navy has asked Humberts to sell HMS St Vincent, otherwise known as Furse House. at Queen's Gate Terrace, South Kensington. The mid-19th century terrace property, listed grade II, was once a hotel and is currently a hostel for naval personnel.

Rodney Hobson on a double coup for Trafalgar House's Brooklands business park

A Walkman in the park

rafalgar House has cele-brated taking 100 per 350-acre Brooklands business park in Surrey by announcing two major transactions. Sony, the Japanese electronics company, is to site its new 180,000 sq ft headquarters on the old racetrack, while Marks & Spencer, the retail chain, is to seek planning permission for a 55,000 sq ft store, including 10,000 sq ft of food The Sony deal is claimed to be

the biggest letting in the UK to a Japanese company and possibly the largest pre-let achieved on a business park. The 13-acre site will allow for expansion of up to 50,000 sq ft of extra office space. There will be 874 parking spaces.

The three-storey building designed by architects Covell Mat-thews Wheatley will be built by Trafalgar House Construction to Sony's demanding specifications. It will have two wings and a central

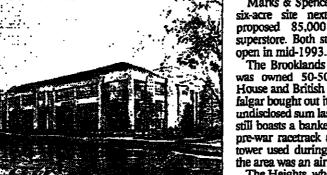
Work on the site will begin this summer. Sony will move in late next year and will pay £29 per sq ft rent on the 25-year lease, with a short rent rebate. The first rent review will be in five years. Sony has an option to buy the building.

The new building will house management, sales, marketing and

administration. About 550 staff will relocate from four sites. including the current headquarters at Staines, which is already too small and offers no scope for expansion.

pany in Basingstoke. The decision ends a two-year earth by Sony and Bernard

Malcolm Willings, deputy man-



Flower power: Sony's headquarters will have a natural setting

aging director of Sony (UK), says: "We looked hard and long at all the options open to us to the west and south-west Some staff will also move from remises occupied by a sister comlocation.

Thorpe & Partners, its agent. To avoid moving staff large distances, the search concentrated on an area within the M25 between the A3 and the M4.

of London and Brooklands offered us the best facilities in terms of quality and We need to be reasonably close

to Heathrow airport because senior

We also needed access to the motorway network. "I looked at 60 sites within the search area. Sony is a very fussy

The lease on the 48,000 sq ft

still boasts a banked section of the pre-war racetrack and the control tower used during the war when

the area was an airfield.

The Heights, where Sony will be based, has outline planning permission for 750,000 sq ft of office space on 50 acres alongside the river Wey. The retail stores will complete redevelopment of the western sector, where 1 million so ft of purpose-built distribution and industrial space is occupied.

To the south, a 25-acre residen-

Staines headquarters will be sold. Marks & Spencer has bought a

tial development is under construction and the final phase, the 145acre central area, is the subject of a planning application for 700,000 sq ft of business space, a hotel and 70 acres of parkland.

Well-known names taking space are British Aerospace, Mitsui. Courage, Cadbury-Schweppes and staff do a lot of international travel. John Lewis. All buildings have been pre-let. The joint agents are Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks and Robert Neil.



A Swedish consortium, Golden Lane Properties, has completed the refurbishment of Fortune Court. a 105.000 sq ft office development in the City of London. Joint letting agents are Healey & Baker and Henry Davis City.



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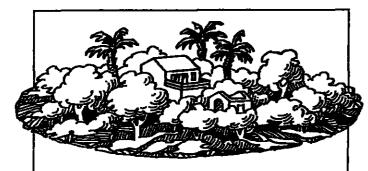
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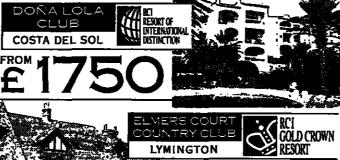
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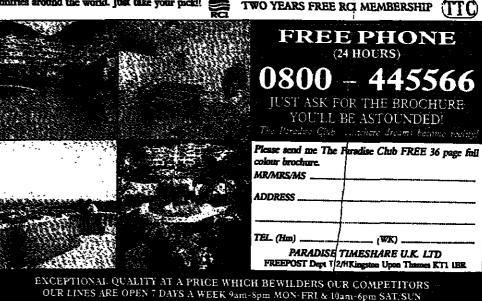
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Mrs B Harris, Solland Interiors Led, 61 South Andley Street, Mayfair, London W1Y 5FB OR Fax no. 071 499 0403

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MKIN KI:

He referred to R v Sang (1980) AC 402) which established that

evidence was none the less admis-

sible if it was obtained by im-

proper means, and he pointed out

that a defendant would be pro-

tected against the unfair use of

such evidence by the discretion

conferred upon the trial judge

In the court's judgment, that ubmission had to be rejected.

Neither Sang nor section 78 provided any support for the

proposition that the police had a

general right to retain unlawfully

seized material as against its

Such a right could only be conferred by express statutory language. Section 22(2)(a) could

not bear the weight which Mr

The purpose of that subsection was the normal purpose of subordinate provisions in-

troduced by the words "without prejudice to the generality" of

what had gone before, namely to give specific examples of matters

which were to be treated as falling

within the scope of the general

Thus the subparagraph pro-

ces for the purposes

vided examples of what might be regarded as "necessary in all the

Solicitors: John Roberts & Co.

Preston; CPS, HQ for Mr Brian

in effect be paying damages three

times over.

First, he would be providing replacement services free of charge. Second, he would be paying for the services he had so provided and, third, he would have lost his employment in order

have lost his employment in order

That was true and on the face of

it appeared not to be in ac-cordance with justice. Further-more, in cases in which it was shown that the services of the

father were as good as, or better

than the services previously pro-

vided by the mother, it was, on the face of it, difficult to see that the

child had suffered a recoverable

With conflicting decisions on the point whether the gratuitous

services of a relative did or did not

result from the death of the mother his Lordship had no hesitation in following Hay v

Hughes ([1975] QB 790) rather than Stanley v Saddique ([1992] 1 QB 1) and if that was right

Lord Justice McCowan deliv-

ered a judgment, inter alia,

dissenting on the cross-appeal.

Solicitors: Berrymans: J. D. Spicer & Co. Lower Edmonton.

section 4 did not apply.

to provide such services

of subsection (1).

Mr Justice Jowitt agreed.

Shorrock sought to place on it.

owner for use as evidence.

under section 78 of the Act.

Queen's Bench Divisional Court

No right to retain material

Regina v Chief Constable of Lancashire, Ex parte Parker Regina v Same, Ex part

Before Lord Justice Nolan and Mr Justice Jowitt Judgment March 311

The police did not have a general right to retain unlawfully seized material as against its owner for use as evidence under section 22(2) of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 as the subsection had to be read in conjunction with the rest of section 22 and was thus only concerned with material seized under the provisions of sections 19 and 20.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held on applications for judicial review by Harold Parker and Frank McGrath when declaring that there had been breaches of section 16(5)(b) and (c) by the Lancashire police in the execution of search warrants at the homes of the applicants and in ordering that documents seized

Section 22 of the 1984 Act provides: "(1) Subject to sub-section (4) below, anything which has been seized by a constable or taken away by a constable follow ing a requirement made by virtue of section 19 or 20 may be retained so long as is necessary in

the circumstances.

(2) Without prejudice to the (a) anything seized for the tion may be retained, except as provided by subsection (4) belo - (i) for use as evidence at trial for an offence, or (ii) for forensic examination or for investigation in connection with an offence . . .

(4) Nothing may be retained ... if a photograph or copy would be sufficient for that purpose."

Mr Eldred Tabachnik, QC and Mr Daniel Janner for the ap-plicants; Mr John Shorrock, QC and Mr Geoffrey Tattersall for the

LORD JUSTICE NOLAN, giving the judgment of the court, said that the warrants had consisted of an authorisation and a schedule listing the items being sought

execution a photocopy of the schedule was attached to the original authorisation and the applicants were supplied with a copy of the authorisation which did not have a copy of the

It was highly desirable that the copying and certification of copies under section 15(7) and (8) be carried out by the issuing court. The Act required that. Section 15 rant. It was issued by a judge or magistrate.
Compliance with section 15(7)

judge or magistrate who issued the warrant, although the section did not prevent him from delegating that part of the issuing process to the staff of his court.

The chief constable accepted that there had been a breach of section 16(5)(c) by virtue of the failure to provide the applicants with a copy of the schedule but argued that the replacement of the original schedule by a photo-copy had been authorised by the

idge.
That would not do. Leaving aside the fact that such an interpretation of the facts found no support in the affidavit of the judge, even if it was the fact that the judge authorised the replacement of the original schedule, attached to the original authorization which he signed, by a photocopied schedule he had no right to do so.

It was clear beyond argument that when the Act referred to a warrant issued by a judge it meant the whole of the original document seen and approved and

put forth by him.

The copies of the warrant for which section 15(7) and (8) provided had to be clearly certified as such. It would be wholly contrary to the purpose of the legislation if a judge could authorise the police to replace the whole or a part of the original warrant, for the

Havden v Havden

Judgment March 241

Before Lord Justice Parker, Lord Justice McCowan and Sir David

Where an infant dependant's

mother was killed in an accident

in a car driven by the father which

resulted in the father replacing

the mother's lost services by

caring for the infant himself, the

father's services were not a benefit

which had accrued as a result of

Accordingly, section 4 of the Fatal Accidents Act 1976 did not

apply so that the value of the father's services should be taken

into account in assessing the damages payable to the plaintiff.

The Court of Appeal so stated, Lord Justice McCowan dissent-

ing, when dismissing a cross-appeal by the infant plaintiff, Danielle Hayden. The court also

dismissed an appeal by the defen-

dant father. Terry Benignes Hayden. Both were from a damages

award by Mr Justice Buckley on

The action resulted from an

the defendant overturned killing

September 14, 1990.

purpose of its execution, by an uncertificated photocopy which he had not seen. There had therefore been a

breach of section 16(5)(b). The chief constable had argued that even though the entry and

search were unlawful he was entitled to retain documents and other material which had been The searches were purportedly made under the authority of

warrants issued pursuant to paragraph 12 of Schedule 1. The power to seize and retain material or which a search had been authorized under paragraph 12 was conferred by paragraph 13. The only authority invoked by the police was under that paragraph.
The consequences of the breaches of section 16(5)(b) and (c) was that by virtue of section 15(1) the entries, searches and seizures were unlawful, so depriv ing the police of any authority

Mr Shorrock relied, however, upon the power of retention conferred by section 22(2)(a) which, he submitted, was de signed to authorise the reten by the police of material which had come into their hands by unlawful means.

Under paragraph 13 to retain any of the material seized.

He submitted that if the provisions of subsection (2)(a) applied only to material which was lawfully in the possession of the police then it would be superfluous.

Assessing father's services

Section 4 of the 1976 Act provides: "In assessing damages

in respect of a person's death in

an action under this Act, benefits

which have acrued or will or may

accrue to any person from his estate or otherwise as a result of

his death shall be disregarded."

Mr William Crowther, QC and Mr Christopher J. Russell for the defendant: Mr Michael Brent, QC and Mr Duncan MacLeod

LORD JUSTICE PARKER,

agreeing with Sir David Croom-Johnson on the cross-appeal, said that the plaintiff, who was aged four at the time of the accident.

lost her mother's services and that

in order to replace such services

himself her father gave up his employment to look after her.

For the defendant, it was

submitted that the value of his

services should be taken into

account, that is, set against the value of the mother's lost services

in arriving at the plaintiff's loss. For the plaintiff, it was submit-

ted that the father's services must

be wholly disregarded by reason of section 4. For the defendant, it was pointed out that if his services

ere to be disregarded he would

ic Co Ltd v SB Property Company Ltd.

Before Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Leggatt and Lord Justice Nolan

(Judgment April 2) The courts would not generally into contracts for the sale and purchase of land which would ensure compensation for all delay, whatever disputes or issues might arise. If parties envisaged at the time

of making their contracts that delay at any stage might be prejudicial they should agree a imetable or make provision for the contracts to be rescinded on occasion of appropriate The Court of Appeal so held in a

reserved judgment in (i) dismiss-ing an appeal by Chelsea Football and Athletic Co Ltd ("the club") against the decision of Mr Justice Millett on February 26, 1992 ordering immediate specific performance of a contract for the purchase of land without deductpurchase of land without deducting from the purchase price of any damages payable by SB Property Co Ltd ("the company") for breach of an implied term pleaded by the cib and (ii) allowing a cross-appeal by the company against the decision of Mr Justice Millett that the contract installed as implied term tract included an implied term pleaded by the club.

Mr David Neuberger, QC and Mr Nicholas Dowling for the club; Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC and Mr Paul Morgan for the

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that on August 19, 1982 a lease was granted by the company to the club for seven years for premises which included the Stamford Bridge Football Club. At the same time the freehold of the premises was sold by the club to the company in order to raise money and the lease was a lease-

The company was a property holding company and at the time of the sale and lease-back it was understood that a substantial part of the premises was ripe for

The broad objective of the parties was to give the company six years to find a developer. If the development was unlikely to affect the use by the club of the rest of the premises for playing football, the club would be entitled to continue to do so and would surrender the part of the premises required for development and the rent would be reduced. If the development would affect the continued use of the premises by the chib for playing tootball, the company would provide an alter-native leasehold football ground.

If, by the expiration of the disposition period, the company had not effected a disposition of

Chelsca Football and Athlet-ic Co Ltd v SB Property option to purchase the freehold

Three days before the end of the disposition period, the company granted a lease of the whole of the premises for development for a term of 210 years to a company called Crest Homes Ltd.

Notwithstanding that, a week later the club gave notice purporting to exercise its option to purchase the freehold. The club commenced an action against the company and Crest claiming that the club had duly exercised its option and was entitled to acquire the freehold free of any interest of Because of that action, solicitors

for the club and the company agreed that the valuation proce dure under the 1982 lease should be deferred until the validity of the club's notice purporting to exmined by the court. A valuation surveyor was not

appointed until May 3, 1991 and he made a report on November 27, 1991 determining the open market value on August 23, 1988 at £22,850,000.

By early 1991, the property market had collapsed. The company therefore decided on

commercial grounds that it was expedient for it to abandon its arrangements with Crest and to hold the club to its exercise of the option at a price to be fixed as at August 23, 1988. Crest surrendered its lease and

in February 1991 the company conceded, contrary to its previous contentions, that the option had been validly exercised by the club. A declaration to that effect was made by the Vice-Chancellor by consent of the parties. In the same order, the Vice-Chancellor had held that the

relevant valuation date for the purposes of the option was August 23, 1988 and that the appointment of the surveyor was a valid and effective appointment. On November 7, 1991 the club

started a fresh action against the company claiming damages for the delay in the ascertainment of the price payable by the club as a result of the insistence by the company that the option had not been validly exercised.

It was pleaded that that amounted to a breach of an implied term and it was claimed that the club suffered substantial damage as a result of the delay because it had lost the devdopment value following the col-

lapse of the property market.

The company applied to strike out the club's action on the ground that the statement of claim disclosed no reasonable cause of action and was amended to ask in the alternative for certain questions to be decided under Order 14A of the Rules of Supreme Court.

The company then started its

own action against the club claiming specific performance of the contract for the sale of the premises. The company issued a

summons in its action for summary judgment for specific The club contended, however. that it was entitled to set off damages for the breach of con-

tract it claimed against the price navable under the exercise of the Mr Justice Millett heard all the matters and held that the contract which arose from the club's exercise of the option should be specifically nunediately without any deduc-

tion from the purchase price of the damages payable by the company for breach of the implied term pleaded by the club but he held that the contract did include the implied term pleaded by the club.

The implied term which the judge upheld was "that in the event of the open market value not

being agreed between the parties [the company] would not do or omit to do anything which would have the effect of preventing or delaying the determination of the open market value... His Lordship could see no basis

at all for implying any such term. The lease contained no indication of urgency at all over the comple-tion of the sale on the exercise of the option and it did not lay down a timetable. It did not even specify when the completion date was to be let alone make time of the Under the general law as to

open contracts, the conclusion would merely be that completion was to take place when the price had been determined and the vendor had shown a good title to the property.

The need for urgency over the

valuer which was now emphasised so much by the club

the collapse of the property market which neither party expected when the option was exercised The suggested new principle was particularly inappropriate

where a genuine dispute between the parties had to be resolved by the court before completion could rake place.

In the present case, there was a genuine dispute between the company and the dub over whether the granting of the Crest lease defeated the club's option and so precluded any valid exercise of the

The extension of the law involved in the implication of the term contended for by the club was unwarranted. If the parties envisaged, when they made their contract, that delay at any stage in performance might be prejudicial they should agree a timetable, or make provision for the contract to he rescinded in appropriate

They could not assume that the law would make a blanket im-plication into their contract of a general term which would ensure compensation for all delay, whatever disputes or issues might

Nor did his Lordship agree with Mr Justice Millett's view that a denial of the existence of the contract arising from the club's exercise of the option constituted a repudiatory breach of contract. for it involved a refusal to perform the contractual obligations

The company was merely rely ing on the terms of the lease and asserting that on a true construction of those terms in the events which happened the club did not have any option to exercise. Lord Justice Leggatt and Lord Justice Nolan delivered concur-

ring judgments. Solicitors: Denton Hall Burgin Warrens; Lovell White

Skeleton timing

Regina v Miller (Steven) A skeleton argument was to be

time. Counsel had to ensure that it was a skeleton argument and not a fully fleshed body. Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice,

presiding over the Court of Ap-peal, Criminal Division, with Mr Justice Macpherson and Mr Jus-tice Judge, so stated on March 27 when counsel for an applicant for leave to appeal against conviction, apologised for not having been able to provide until shortly before the court sat, his skeleton argument to counsel for the Crown. whose attendance had been requested by the court.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that their Lordships had not until that morning. That was not good enough. The court had a large amount of reading to do, as counsel well knew.

A skeleton argument arriving either the night before or on their Lordships' desks on the morning of a hearing was of no assistance.

Correction

In Campbell v UK (The Times April 1) Judge Sir John Freeland dissented from the finding of a breach of article 8 over interference with the prisoner's correspondence only with his solicitors. He did not dissent on the finding over interference with correspondence with the European Commission.

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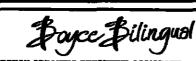
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Should take to legan the above tormans.

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All known creditors have been or will be paid in full 9 April 1992

Richard Victor Yerburgh Seichim

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OF TRUSTIEE
THE INSOLVENCY FULLES 1986
RULE 12 4s 1
In the mailer of
Christopher Robert Sewell
In Bank rupkcy
Chelmoford County Court
No. 6 of 1992
Notice is herrby given that
Confirey C A Morphilis of Cape
and Daigletsh, 401 St John Sireet.
London ECI V 4LH was appointed
Trustee of the above named on
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Coil (4) 8 Furious (5) 9 Hauled (7) (1 Multiple (8) 24 Canle group (4) 25 US Northerner (6)

> 17 Sheer (5) 21 In bed (4) 20 By oneself (5)

WINDING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chass Correspondent

Today's position is from the game Torres -Alekhine. Seville 1922. How did Alekhine, Black to play, finish the game with a brilliant coup? Solution below.



Solution: 1 ... Oxfall 2 gxfa3 NIZ++ 3 Kg1 Nxfa3 mate.

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VY EDINGSDAT

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6.00 Ceefax (29088) 6.30 BBC Breakfast News (21635663)

9.05 Election Call presented by Jonathan Dimbleby. On the eve of the general election John Major, the prime minister, answers viewers and listeners questions. To participate ring 071-799 5000. Simultaneous broadcast with Radio 4 (1225601)

10.00 News, regional news and weather (4662021) 10.05 Playdays (r) (5723663) 10.25 The Family Ness (r) (4672408) 10.35 Gibberish. Celebrity word game (7855040)

11 00 News: regional news and weather 11.05 Holiday (r) (8844750)

11.00 News, regional news and weather 11.05 Holiday (r) (8844750)
11.30 People Today. Magazine series presented by Miriam Stoppard and Adnan Mills. Includes News, regional news and

weather at 12.00 (8530601)

12.20 Pebble Mill. Music and chat introduced by Alan Titchmarsh (8568311) 12.55 Regional News and weather (13572885)

1.00 One O'Clock News and weather (51514)

1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (64156069) 1.50 Turnabout. Rob

Curling with another round of the word power quiz (64150885)

2.15 Racing from Ascot introduced by Julian Wilson. Live coverage of the 2.30, 3.05 and 3.40 races (s) (262040) 3.50 Henry's Cat. Animation (r) (8452971) 3.55 Wildburch. The first of

a new wildlife series (5) (4158214) 4.10 Attack Of The Killer Tomatoes. Animated fantasy series (s) (2850205) 4.30 The Movie Game. A new film and video quiz (Ceefax) (s) (934) 5.00 Newsround (7496392) 5.10 Little Sir Nicholas. Episode two of the sx-part children's drama senal (r). (Ceefax) (7076446)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (556392). Northern Ireland: Inside 6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Moira Stuart. (Ceelax)

Weather (427) 6.30 Regional News Magazines (779). Northern Ireland: Neighbours 7.00 Wogan. With Dustin Hoffman and, with a song, the Temptations (s) 7.30 Tomorrow's World. Includes a report from India on how scientists

with the help of students from Oxford University, are tackling the problem of overcrowding among elephants and humans. (Ceefax) 8.00 Only Fools and Horses. Del is looking forward to his old school's reunion and meeting his former classmates, but one of them isn't as friendly as Del had hoped (r). (Ceefax) (460069)

8.50 Points of View with Anne Robinson (s) (339953) 9.00 Nine O'Clock News and Campaign Report with Michael Buerk



Tilting: Hazel Burnett supports Pisa's tower (9.50pm)

9.50 Q.E.D: Propping Up Pisa.

 CHOICE: The leaning tower of Pisa has been increasing its tilt for 800 years but now things are getting serious. In the past 50 years the rate of tilt has nearly doubled and sober experts are predicting. collapse sooner rather than later if nothing is done. Cynthia Page's entertaining film offers a potted history of the tower, looks at theories of why it moves and recalls that no fewer than 15 commissions have been set up this century with the brief to save it. All have either failed to agree or seen their remedies lost in the labyrinth of Italian bureaucracy. In February the latest deliberations seemed to produce an answer. No one is confident that it will be acted upon. Meanwhile the tower has been closed to the public and Pisa's tourist trade has fallen by a quarter. (Ceefax) (360359)

10.20 Sportsnight presented by Desmond Lynam. Boxing: Britain's Henry Wharton defends his Commonwealth super-middleweight title against Rod Carr of Australia at Leeds Town Hall; Athletics: a profile of Carl Lewis the legendary American sprinter and long jump ace; Golf: a preview of the US Masters which begins tomorrow i Augusta (3920088)

11.40 Spenser For Hire. Private detective drama series. This week Spencer investigates the death of a man who, a writer claims, did not exist and was only a fictional charcter in one of her books.

arring Robert Urich (314243) 12.20am On the Hustings. Highlights of the eve-of-the-election canvassing (4949915) 12.50 Weather (4928977) 6.45 Open University: Gallium Arsenide - Pulled From Obscurity

6.45 Open University: Gallium Arsende — Pulled From Obscurny (7147175). Ends at 7.10. 8.00 Breakfast News (6008069)
8.15 Olga Goes To Hollywood. A Russian actress tries her luck in Tinseltown (r). (Ceefax) (3974137)
9.00 Film: The Feminine Touch (1941, b/w). Comedy starring Rosalind Russell and Don Ameche. A professor, author of the definitive book on jealousy, is himself guilty of the deadly sin when he brings his wife to New York where his new boss falls for her. Directed by W.S. Van Dyke II (78219750)
10.35 Film: Persil (1944) body starring Virginia Rosse and Tito Guizer.

BBC2

W.S. Van Dyke II (18219/50)
10.35 Film: Brazil (1944, b/w) starting Virginia Bruce and Tito Guizar. Musical romantic comedy about a successful American woman writer and a struggling South American songwriter who becomes a Rio de Janeiro guide to make ends meet. Directed by Joseph Santley (1879050)

12.00 The Green Curtain. How hungry Lithuanians turned to west country farmers for help and advice (r) (54040) 12.30 Flight of the Whooping Crane. The fight to save North America's threatened birds (r) (7942972)

1.20 Johnson and Friends (r) (24690330) 1.30 Spider (r) (s) (21700934) 1.35 Country File. Rural issues examined by John Craven (r) (15895327) 2.00 News and weather (30164040) 2.05 Chronide: The Great Iron

Ship. A documentary about Brunel's SS Great Britain (r) (4816392) 3.00 News and weather (2970345) followed by High Chaparral. Vintage western series (r) (3032205) 3.50 News, regional news and ır (2432137) 4.00 Cracking the Egg (r) (9440040) 4.50 Two Points of View. Work

by news photographers from The Netherlands (r) (6198205) 5.10 Horizon: Before Babel. A documentary about the search for the first language spoken by humans (r). (Ceefax) (s) (5205798)
6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation. Science fiction adventures. (Ceefax) (960934)



In Egypt: Sankha Guha and Magenta de Vine (6.45pm)

6.45 DEF II: Rough Guide To The World's Journeys — Update. Magenta de Vine and Sankha Guha visit Egypt (550866) 7.30 Young Musician of the Year. Five musicians compete in the brass final (s) (315885)

8.10 Timewatch: The Story of Elisabeth Nietzsche. CHOICE: Last week's film about Friedrich Nietzsche's nasty sister chronided her attempt to set up a racially pure New Germany in the

Paraguayan jungle. Tonight we move on to the 20th century and Elisabeth Nietzsche's romance with fascism. Distorting and even forging her brother's writings, she produced a designer ideology that could happily be embraced by Mussolini and Hitler. Amazingly, she was three times nominated for the Nobel prize for literature. Her she was three times noninated for the Nobel prize for interactire. Her power base was the Nietzsche Archive in Weimar, lavishly supported by Hitler but sealed off by the invading Red Army in 1945 and only now beginning to yield its shabby secrets. Archive film shows Elisabeth at 88 presenting Nietzsche's walking stick to Hitler. In her white lace bonnet she looks for all the world like a sweet old lady who would not harm a fly (s) (457595)

9.00 Film: Starstruck (1982) starring Jo Kennedy and Ross O'Donovan. A comic rock opera directed by Gillian Armstrong (3885) 10.30 Newsnight with Jeremy Paxman (849069)

11.25 The Late Show (s) (129494) 11.55 Weather (875514) 12.00 Open University: Immigration, Prejudice and Ethnicity (7406606). Ends at 12.55am

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IΤV

6.00 TV-am (8107040) 9.25 Lucky Ladders. Word association game show hosted by Lennie Sennett (4747866)

9.55 Thames News (1101886) 10.00 The Time...The Place... Topical discussion chaired by Mike Scott (2844601)

10.40 This Morning. Magazine series presented by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan. Today's edition includes information on how to make the most of the National Health Service; legal advice; and a layman's

the most of the National Health Service; legal advice; and a layman's guide to electronics (154359)

12.10 Allsorts. Children's entertainment (s) (7471408)

12.30 Lunchtime News with Nicholas Owen and Sonia Ruseler. (Oracle) Weather (8271021) 1.10 Thames News (24698972)

1.20 Home and Away. Australian family drama serial. (Oracle) (46752476) 1.50.A Country Practice. Medical drama set in rural Australia (19045840) Australia (s) (18045840)

2.20 Graham Kerr. With the help of Vincent Guerithault, a restaurateur from Phoenix, Arizona, Graham Kerr prepares a scallop and shrimp dish (59179069) 2.50 Take The High Road. Soap set in the Highlands (8345601) 3.15 ITN News headlines (5225412) 3.20 Thames News headlines (8475935) 3.25 The Young Doctors. Australian medical drama

serial (1394595) 3.55 The Dreamstone. Cartoon fantasy series (r) (s) (5687779) 4.20

3.55 The Dreamstone. Cartoon fantasy series (r) (s) (5687779) 4.20 Megamania. The first of a new series of manic team games first of a new series of manic team games from different locations beginning in a hospital (3451705) 4.50 Johnny Ball Reveals All. Balance is this week's subject (6125359)
 5.10 Blockbusters. General knowledge quiz for teenagers (8312156)
 5.40 Early Evening News with John Suchet. (Oracle) Weather (441021)
 6.00 Home and Away (r). (Oracle) (595)
 6.30 Thames News. (Oracle) (175)
 7.00 This is Your Life. Michael Aspel ambushes another unsuspecting worthy (s) (1205)

worthy (s) (1205)

7.30 Coronation Street. (Oracle) (359) 8.00 Inspector Morse: Absolute Conviction. Colin Dexter's cultivated detective investigates the death of a convict which leads to him and Sergeant Lewis looking into the background of three businessmer serving a sentence for fraud. Starring John Thaw, Kevin Whatley,

Diana Quick, Richard Wilson and Sean Bean (2885) 10.00 News at Ten with Julia Somerville and Carol Barnes. (Oracle) Weather (59595) 10.30 Thames News (670601)



No strings attached? Kinnock, Ashdown and Major (10.40pm)

10.40 Spitting Image Election Special. An eve-of-poll airing for the political latex puppers (908458)
11.10 Film: Satisfaction (1988) starring Justine Bateman. Disappointing

drama about a female rock band playing at an swish club resort, that pulls out all the stops when it comes to cliches. Directed by Joan Freeman (216953) 12.55 Visions. Includes American writer Maya Angelou on the role

religion plays in her life (r) (2930460)

1.25 Film: Central Airport (1933, b/w) starring Richard Barthelmess Vintage aerial drama about a pilot who considers giving up after surviving a near fatal crash — until he meets a glamorous female parachutist. Directed by William A. Wellman (2822462) 2.45 Hollywood Report. Life in Tinseltown from the British point of

view (86170) 3.15 America's Top Ten presented by Casey Kasem (s) (83083)
3.45 Videofashion. How the 1980s influenced fashion (47612644)
4.10 Quiz Night, inter pub and club competition (11973064)

4.40 Along the Colswold Way. Clive Gunnell travels the last lap to Drovers Hill (26518460)

5.10 Fifty Years On (b/w). Archive newreel clos (9056606) 5.30 ITN Morning News (98335). Enos at 6.00

CHANNEL4

6.00 Channel 4 Daily (8105682)
9.25 The Munsters (b/w). Viritage comedy about a ghoulish American family (r) (4745408)
9.55 Road to Avonlea. Episode one of a 13-part children's drama series

(r) (5822953)

10.55 Prophet and Loss. Animated updated version of the story of Orpheus and Eurydice (8851040)

11.00 Beyond the Barrier. A portrait of Bath car park attendant Philip Steff who doubles as a "ghostbuster" (r) (7088)

11.30 Get Smart. Spoof secret agent adventures starring Don Adams (8717)

12.00 Noah's Ark. A visit to the world's highest national park — the Lauca in the Tarapaca region of Chite (r) (56408)
12.30 Business Daily. Reports and analysis from the world's money markets (25819)

1.00 Secarne Street. Entertaining pre-school learning series (r) (96514)
2.00 Film: The Road to Glory (1936, b/w) starring Fredric March. First

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world war trenches drama about a commander and a young officer who fall for the same nurse. Directed by Howard Hawks (130717)

3.55 The Last Station. Yugoslav animation (3307822)

4.00 Short Stories: Plane Scared. A documentary featuring three people attending a course to try and conquer their fear of flying (1)

(208)

(208)
4.30 Fifteen to One. Fast moving general knowledge quiz presented by William G. Stewart (\$) (972)
5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. Today's guests are people who had a poor upbringing and were considered "write trash" (4813601)
5.55 Laurel and Hardy. Cartoon (r) (549214)
6.00 Kate & Allie. American comedy series starring Jane Curtin and Stream Samt tarring (137)

Susan Saint James (137)

6.30 Tonight with Jonathan Ross. The guests include Hamy Enfield, Roy Greenslade, a former editor of the Daily Mirror and, providing the music, Spinal Tap (s) (717) 7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow and Zeinab Badawi. (Teletext)

Weather (162750)
7.50 Comment (394595)
8.00 Brookside. Soap set in suburban Merseyside. (Teletext) (8595)
8.30 Food File. Drew Smith investigates whether our food is really as

safe as we are told. (Teletext) (s) (7530) 9.00 Dispatches. Have television viewers really learnt anything from the

past four weeks of campaigning? (314137) 9.45 Letters From St Petersburg. CHOICE: Having been interrupted to make way for election coverage, the series of short reports from the former Leningrad resumes with a portrait of one Pavel Konstantinovich Koshelev. His career neatly embodies the old Soviet Union and the hopes and fears of the new Russia. For eight years as an employee of the KGB he headed a section dealing with: "ideological diversity". In plain language this meant persecuting artists and dissidents who strayed from the pasts line. Since the college of commission he has become

from the party line. Since the collapse of communism he has turned democrat and is now in charge of a central region of the city. His old adversaries doubt whether he has changed his spots. A civil rights leader says: "It is incredible that a man like him should have this post. It means that all our struggles have been in vain." (712798) 10.00 The Golden Girls. Sharp comedy about the four women of a certain age sharing a Miami home (9934)



Topical satire: the television newshounds on air (11,00pm)

11.00 Drop the Dead Donkey. Award-winning comedy series set in the offices of a television news station (r) (s) (9069)
11.30 Tonight with Jonathan Ross. See 6.30 (r) (s) (35750)
12.00 Midnight Special presented by Vincent Hanna (61354)
2.00 Dick Spanner. Animated private detective series (3126064). Ends

at 2.65

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

 Via the Astra and Marcopolo sa Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
 6.00am The DJ Kat Show (76431601) 8.40 Ars Pennemot (3820934) 8.55 (amb Choo-Mrs Pepperpot (3820934) 8.25 Lamb Chops Play-a-Long 1571802 1) 9.30 The New Leave it to Beaver (42717) 10.00 Naude (60798) 10.30 The Young Doctors (12088) 11.00 The Young and the Resiless (80040) 12.00 Barnator Jones (25040) 1.00ptn E Street (91156) 1.30 Another World (8019601) 2.20 Santa Barbaro (54762359) 2.45 The Bold and the Seating (124144659) 3.15 The Ready Burch the Beautiful (34 1446) 3.15 The Brady Bunch (348359) 3.45 The DJ Kat Show (7207330) 5.00 Diffrent Strokes (3205) 5.30 Bewitched 5,00 Diffrem Strokes (3205) 5,30 Bewitched (3799); 6,00 Facts of Life (3311); 6,30 E Street (4663) 7,00 Love at First Sight (3069) 7,30 Totally Hödden Videc (3175) 8,00 Battlestar Galachia (68779) 9,00 Chances (71243) 10,80 Studs (23999) 10,30 Night Court (13717) 11,80 Sorny Spoon (78205) 12,00 Against the Wind (96064) 1,00am Pages from Sighert

SKY NEWS

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.

News on the hour.

1.00pm A Desperate Exit (1986): A News on the hour.

1.00pm A Desperate Exit (1986): A News on the hour.

1.00pm A Desperate Exit (1986): A News and Marcopolo satellites.

1.00pm A Desperate Exit (1986): A News and Marcopolo satellites.

1.00pm A Desperate Exit (1986): A New Acrobics (60430) 7.00 NHL ice Normal (4059) 10.00 News, and Election world war drama (65682) Hockey (77392) 8.00 Netbusters (47885) 8.30 Autoglass Area Final (981311) 11.00 Negligible (40885) 4.00 Stood Up: A grid sues her date (27934) One-Day International Circlet: West Indies v 12.00 News (11595) 1.30pris Good Morring America (24663) 2.30 Good Morring America (49663) 3.30 Travel Destinations (51205) 4.30 Fashron TV (6048) 5.00 Live at Five (56985) 6.30 Newsline (18583) 8.30 Target (46137) 10.30 Newsline (81935) 11.30 ABC News (68137) 12.30aria Newsline (24588) 1.30 ABC News (80373) 2.30 Memories 1970-1991 (71286) 3.30 ABC News (76731) 4.30 Memories (1970-1991 (13034) 5.30 Newsline (34151) 12.00 News (11595) 1.3

SKY MOVIES+

 Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites. 6.00am Showcase (8817972) 10.00 Jee Versus the Volcano (1990): Tom Harks volunteers to jump into a volcano (17021) 12.00 Tattle (1990): Drama about cocaine SKY SPORTS

(97/35/243)
7-45 Entertainment Tonight (767/392)
8.05 The Incident (1990): Walter Matthau delends a German Poliv (4025/3653)
10.00 Deep Space (1987): An alien terrorses an American town (597/205)
11.35 Domino (1988): Eronc drama (1984):

1.30am House Party (1990:: High school Inends organise a rap party (953880) 4.00 Teachers (1984), Satire on the education system (261118). Ends at 5.50 THE MOVIE CHANNEL

◆ Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.15am The Hound of the Baskervilles.
(1959): Peter Cuching start as Sherlock.
Holmes (58079259):
7.50 Pirates of Dark Water (25513359)
9.40 The Girl in Room 17:19537: A police captain starts two marcheous robbers (79045934)
11.25 The Little Prince (1974): Musical M2550885.

11.25 The Little Prince (1974) Musical (42509385)
1.00pm Piddler on the Roof (1971) Musical starting Tood (976514)
4.00 Pirates of Dark Water as 7 50am (3350921) 1.550 Spotlight (11742) 6.15 Marilyn and Me (1991) A reporter has an affer with Manlyn Monthe (473759) 8.15 When Harry Met Sally (1983) Romante correly (39432177)
10.05 Vistnam, Texas (1996) Ropert Gmty searches for his Vietnames (1996) Ropert Gmty searches for his Vietnames (1996) Ropert Gmty searches for his Vietnames (1996) Copparationables thiller (544109)
1.25am The Last Married Couple in America (1990) Saming George Sepal and Natale Wood (567809)
3.10 Not For Publication (1934) A reporter investigates the mayor of New York

investigates the mayor of flew york (6212151) Ends at 4.35 THE COMEDY CHANNEL

● Via the Astra satellite. 4.00pm Mr Ed (15:4) 4.30 Personal Junction 777981 5.00 The New Leste in to Seaver (1885) 5.30 Greenbres (1750, 6.00 Here's Lucy (2663) 6.30 Small Wonder (1145, 7.00) Troop (1021) 7:30 Metale's have (8427) 8:00 Doctor, Doctor (765) 8:30 for Man (6576) 8:00 Hogan's Herbes (1682) 9:30 Here's Lucy (1542) 10:00 Companiant Here's (usy /1542" 10,00 Compan and Womack (85069 10,30 McHate's Navy /9471")

South Alrica (3168682) 6.00 Supercross (77514) 7.00 FA Cup Special (463330) 9.30 America's Cup (19885) 12.30-3.00am FA Cup Special (685002)

EUROSPORT

 Via the Astra satellite.
 8.00am Tenns ATP Tour (5410856) 11.30 Eurotun Magazine (75595) 12.00 Football Eurogoals Magazine (73798) 1.00pm Tenns ATP Tour (97427) 2.30 Live Cycing: Gent-Wevelgem Race, Belgium (56069) 4.00 Rotterdam Marathon, The Netherlands (98446) 5.00 Tennis ATP Tour (4962430) 8.30 Eurosport News (6934) 9.00 Eurotop Event (95399) 10.30 Tennis ATP Tour (29663) 11.30 Eurosport News (8934) 9.00 Eurotop Event (9539) 10.30 Tennis ATP Tour (29663) 11.30 Eurosport News (8934) (23663) 11.30 Eurosport News (82934)

SCREENSPORT

 Via the Astra satellite.
 7.00am Eurobics (21311) 7.30 US Men's Pro Sh Tour 1991/92 (40446) 8.00 Spen 1991/92 (40446) 8.00 Spen 1991/93 (50 — Motorsport (67363) 10.30 Eurobics (26934) 11.00 Forte Snooker League 1992 (51866) 1.00pm NHL Action (55392) 2.00 Eurobics (5527) 2.30 DTM German Touring Eurobus, (9527) 2.30 DTM German Tournig Cars (5312798) 3.15 Porsche Careira Cup (5221885) 3.30 Family Curde Cup Tennis (1992 (32221) 5.30 Dutch Open Bowling Masters (20040) 6.30 Show Jumping (95866) 7.30 World Rafly Championship (1992 (99773) 8.30 Warstener Ski Magazine (9408) 9.00 US PGA Tour (1992 (5517330) 18.15 Golf Report (712972) 10.30 NH. Ice Hockey (1991/92 (79330) 12.30am Augusta Masters Highlights (91 (56118)

LIFESTYLE

 Wis the Astra satellite.
 10.00am Getting Fit with Denise Austra (84392) 10.30 The Great American Genechow (2967885) 11.20 What's New (6182327) 11.25 Search for Tomorrow (3041359) 11.50 Sally Jessy Raphael (2465069) 12.45pm Dawd Hamilton's People (961224) 1.15 The Joan Rivers Show (7797595) 2.05 Slayways (4134021) 3.05 Sell-a-Youn 15998663) 3.30 Cover Story (7353) 4.00 Tea Break (3672652) 4.0 Did Van Dwe Show (8608224) 4.80 The Great 1. 3531 4,001 fea Break (3672852) 4,10 Dro Van Dwe Show (6608224) 4,40 The Great American Gameshows (3848972) 5,30 Sel-a-Vision (9330) 6,00 Remington Steele 1672241 7,00 Sel-a-Vision (298366) 10,00 Jukebon Music Videos (49045) 47 2,00am Latt Junebon Dance (31731)

12.45 Jakki Bramsies 3.00 Neske James n. the Alternoon 6.00 Mork Goodien's Mega His 6.30 News 92 7.00 Mars. Goodien's Extrang Session 9.00 The Man Easke Sundame Show 10.00 Nodry Campited Goos into the "Light 12.00-4.00am Bob Hams (FM only) featuring Blue Angels

FM Stered A.00am Alex Lester The Early Show 6.15 Pause for Thought 6.30 Brian Hayes, Good Microring UP 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 kmmy roung 2.00pm Gona Humnford 3.30 65 Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 The Law Same ** 7.30 Festulas of Britan Hawest Common Roting 7 of 3* 8.00 km Bloyd with Foir on 1 Industry press of ons year's Radio Divoug Tradition Award 9.00 Nigel Option. The Organist Strettlers 9.45 Sholl We Cance 4 of 81 10.30 The Lamesons 12.053am Jab Festules with Digby Fairweather 1.00 Patrick Lunt with Night Ride 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music

PADIO 5

News and sport on the Four until 7,00pm.
6,00am World Sence Newthour 6,30 Danny
Saker's Norma Edition 1,35 Sences Sport
Personnes, 9,55 English Stud. Texts 10,25 1, 2, 3, 5 10,40 Johnny Wales with The AM
Alternative 12,30pm Education Matters 1,00 News Update 1,15 1, 3, 3, 4, 5 m 1,30 BPS
Worldwide Samon and the Sound 2,30 World Sences Booker's 3,05 Cuttools, 3,30 Tax.
3,45 Good Books, 4,05 Development 124,4,35 Fine Adde 7,15 1 Can Jump Pubdies 7,30
Bistocat First of a repart description by John Scottley of Robert Westall's story about a car's
search for 35 maches during the testor divided was 8,00 Champion Sport with John Champion
10,10 Hit the North, and 11,00 Epoit 12,00-12,10am News, Don't

VARIATIONS

As London except: 2.20pm-2.50 Gardening Time (59179069) 6.25-7.00 Anglia News BORDER

As London except: 2.15pm-3.15 The Silk Road (588175) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8312156) 6.00 Lookaround Wednesday (595) 6.30-7.00 Blockhusters (175) 11.10 Nisoner: Cell Block H (529953) 12.05 Wolff7425731) 1.00 Donahue (4438557) 1.55 CinemAttractions (4054606) 2.25 America's Top Ten (8550460) 2.55 Film: The Adventures (471847) 4.55-5.30 About Briain (3003441) CENTRAL

As London except: 2.20pm-2.50 in the Northern Wilds (59175069) 3.25-3.55 Take the High Road (1394595) 6.25-7.00 Central News (200553) 11.10 Film: Smokescreen (768885) 12.35 Night Heat (120489) 2.25 Film: Beyond This Place* (100847) 4.05 Stage One (5288996) 5.05-5.30 Central Jobfinder '92 (2099002)

Wolf (7425731) 1.00 Danahue (4438557) 1.55 CinemAttractions (4054606) 2.25 Amenia's Top Ten (8550460) 2.55 Rin: The Adventurers (471847) 4.55-5.30 About Britain (3003441)

As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 The Young Doctors (18045840) 3.25-3.55 A Country Practice (1394595) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8312156) 6.00 HTV News (595) 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters (175) 12.55-1.25 My Riviera (2930460)

HTV WALES

As London except: 3.29pm-3.55 Home and Away (1395224) 5.10-5.40 Take the High Road (3312156) 6.80 TSW Today (595) 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters (175) 11.00 Highway to Heaven (529953) 17.05 Wolf (7425731) 1.00 Donahue (4438557) 1.55 ChemAtractions (4054606) 2.25 America's Top Ten (8550460) 2.55 Rim: The Adventures (471847) A 455.20 Alberty British

As Landon except: 5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away (8312156) 6.00 Calendar (595) 6.30-7.00 Blocklusters (175) 12.55 Him: Fiend Without a Face* (9039441) 2.15 Hollywood Report (94199) 2.45 American Gladiators (4750538) 3.40 Oxiz Might (4760396) 4.10 Music Box (5287267) 5.10-5.30 4-9646/9005606) 5.30 toblinder (9056606)

(595) 6.90-7.00 Blockbusters (175)
12.53-1.25 in Search Of... (2930460)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 5.10pan-5.40 Home (94392) 7.00 Pobol V Cwm (2173) 7.30 Grookside (959) 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters (175) 11.10
Prisoner Cell Block H (529953) 12.85 Wolf (245958) Now You're Talking (342953) 9.55

RTE 1
-Starts: T1.45am The Story of Irish Expression (84531021) 12.19 Oireachtas Report (72354224) 72.30 Check Up (2113021) 1.00 News (3094243) 1.30 Aertel Financial Pages (27758798) 1.40 Earth Journal (95489059) 2.05 The Cediar Tree (5695243) 3.00 Live at Three (2392069) 4.00 News (12792359) followed by Film: The Scarte Empress (Avarience Diesrich, John Lodge, Sam Jaffe, Louise Dressel) (36714243) 6.00 The Angelus (8190359) 6.01 Se-One (2121040) 7.00 No 1 (3893682) 7.30 Web's the Boss? (4939021) 8.00 Low Here (380230) 8.30 The Radharc Doublemarky (3898137) 9.00 News (2940088) 9.30 Today Toroight (2133885) 18.00 Taking a Stand (6569251) 9.30 Porterhouse Blue (6342663) 11.30 Diarronds (3820040) 12.28 News (2549793) 12.30 Clase

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help. They saved us so much time, searching around for the right person for the job. The kitchen's next! We'll use them again, after all, they've done all the work searching out the local supplier to give us a first class



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Section 200

in the second

Read Learning Con. Wearth (MI) and

version of Cinderella (7408) 6.00 Joe Versus the Volcano (as 10am) (97535243)

Via the Astra and Marcopolo setallites
 15am The Hound of the Baskerville

FM Stered and MW, 4,00am Bruno Brookes The Early Breakfast Show (FM only) 6,00 Symon Mayo 9,00 Simon Bates 12,30pm Newsbea

Secret 121 to market during the tector of word work 8.0 Chambion Sport with Joh Chambion 10.10 His the North, and 11.00 Sport 12.00-12.10am News, Sport 3.00 Microbiol 10.10 Secret 12.00-12.10am News, Sport 3.00 Microbiol 12.10am News, Sport 3.00 Microbiol 12.10am News, Sport 3.00 Microbiol 12.10am News, Sport 3.00 News and Secret 12.00 North News, 6.30 Sport 12.10am News, Sport 12.00 North News, 7.00 North News, 7.00

GRANADA

As London except: 2.20pm-2.50 Coming of Age (59179069) 6.30-7.00 Granada Tonight (175) 11.15 Families (537972) 12.05

8.30 News 8.35 Composers of the Week: Richard Strauss and the Third Rech. Sextet, Capnicoo (Philharmonia Orchestra under

Capriccio (Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, soprano) 9.35 Midweek Choice: Delius (On Hearing the First Cuckoo in Spring: English Sinfonia under Groves), Corrette (Laudate Dominum: Soloists; Lyon Vocal and Instrumental Ensemble under Guy Comut); Faure (Theme and Vanations in C (Theme and Vanations in C minor, Op 73: Kathleen Long, piano); Rimsky-Korsakoz (Night on Mount Triglas; Slovak PO under Bystnik Rezucha), Waldmadchen", WoO 71);
Hummel (Septe Militare, Op. 114: Capricom); Brahms

(Phose-hum Grander, To. 20) (Rhapsody in G minor, Op 79 No 2: Radu Lupu, piario); Mozart (Symphony No 44 in D, K 81: ASMF under Neville

Moore, prano) 12.00 Uister Orchestra under Ico Kennaway performs Schelius (Lemminkainen and the Maidens of Saan; Symphony No 4 in A minor, Op 63) 1.00pm News

HTV WEST

As HTV West except: 6.00pm-6.30 Wales

es (471847) 4.55-5.30 About Britain (3003441)

YORKSHIRE

S4C

Prisoner Cell Block H (329953) 12.95 Wolf (7425731) 1.00 Donahue (4438557) 1.55 CinemAtractions (4054606) 2.25 America's Top Ten (8550460) 2.55 Film: The Adventures (471847) 4.35-5.30 About Britain County (51354) 1.00 Block (51354) 2.00 Dick Spanner (51354) 2.00 Dick Spanner (51354) 2.00 Dick Spanner (513564) 2.05 Diwedd

Leinsdorf), Closing Scene, Capriccio (Elsabeth

RADIO 3

1.05 Concert Hali: Julian Lloyd Webber, cello, John Lenehan, piano, perform Fauré (Elégie); Rachmainov (Sonata in G misnor, Op 19) 2.00 Record Review (r)

minor, Op 19)
2.00 Record Review (r)
3.10 Vintage Years: Brahms
(Symphony No 4 in E minor:
Berin PO under Victor de
Sabata)
4.00 Choral Evensong from Trinity
Cathedral Tremon, USA Cathedral, Trenton, USA Fiestas of Peru: Music from 5.00 Fie the High Andes 5.30 Mainly for Pleasure 6.55 News

5.30 Mainly for Pleasure
6.55 News
7.00 BBC SO in Regensburg: Live from the Auditorium
Maximum, Andrew Davis conducts Dvolák (Violin Concerto: Christian Tetzlaff).
7.35 Peter Millar explores the meaning of reunification. 7.55 Bruckner (Symphony No 9)
9.00 Blue Skles

O CHOICE: Dr Steve Jones, latest in a long line of Reith lecturers and, some say, more accessible to the lay listener than many of his predecessors, is probably just the man to present this new monthly series which sets itself the laudible task of throwing a bridge between the arts and the sciences. On paper, this opening programme looks

bridge between the arts and the sciences. On paper, this opening programme looks impressive, it includes Fay Weldon explaining why she has been so scathing lately about scientists, Roy Porter on the RSC's revival of The Virtuoso, Shadwell's satire on the Royal Society, and an item about the Eden temptress, Eve 9.45 Proud Songsters: A seventieth brithday tribute to Stephen Wilkinson. 8BC Northern Singers perform Ezabeth Maconchy (On Stephenses Day); John McCabe (Proud Songsters); Alan Bullard (The Spacious Firmament); Michael Ball (Wild Air); John Joubert (Sonnett); Stephen Dodgson (Invocation); David Gow (Do not go gentle) 10.35 Debussy, Bach and Barber: Yehuda Hamani, cello, Juffus Drake, piano, perform Debussy (Sonata in D minor); Bach (Suite Populaire espagnole) 11.30 News 11.35 12.35am Composers of the Week: Haydn (r)

S4C: Starts; 6:08am C4 Daily (\$105682) 9.25 The Munsters* (4745408) 9.35 Road to Avoniea (\$822953) - 10.55 Prophet and Loss (8851040) 11.00 Beyond the Barries (7088) 11.36 Get Start (\$717) 11.00 Noah's Ark (56408) 12.30 Newyddion (64743953) 12.40 Siot Meithin (1493150) 1.00 Fifteen to One (44224) 1.30 Business Daily (90330) 2.00 The Food File (2359) 2.30 Film: Daughter of Rosie O'Grady (June Haver,

6.55am Weather, News Headlines
7.60 Morraing Concert
Charpentier (Marche de
Triomphe et Second Air de
Tromptte): Sanley (Concerto
No 4 in D minor); Brahms
(Academic Festival Overture)
7.30 News

7.30 News
7.35 Morning Concert (cont).
Barber (Overture) The School for Scandal), Mendelssohn (String Symphony No S in B flat); Holst (St Paul's Surte); Moeran (First Rhapsody); Virgal Thomson (Joyful Fugue)
8.30 News

(Phisharmonia Orchestra under Wolfgang Sawallisch); Japanische Festmusik, Op 84 (Bawanan State Orchestra under the composer); Ich woffte ein Straussiem binden, Op 68 No 2; Als mir dem Liederklang, Op 68 No 4 (Munich Radio Orchestra under Kurt Eichorn); Gavotte; Wirbeltanz Allemande, Dance Suite after Coupenn (Chamber Orchestra of Europe under Ench Lensdorf). Closing Scene.

Marriner), Rossini (Duetto Buffo di due gatti: Victoria de los Angeles, soprano, Elisabeth Schwarzkopt, soprano, Gerald

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY
TV CHOICE PETER WAYMARK/RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALLE

12.30 Close RADIO 4

3.42-4.00 Proffie (FM only) 4.00 Ments
4.05 Kaleldoscope reviews Steven
Spielberg's film Hook (s)
4.45 Short Story: Incident on a
Lake, by John Collier
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast
See Weather

(s) Stereo on FM
5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00
News Briefing, and 6.03
Weather 6.10 Farming Today
6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30
Today, and 6.30, 7.00, 7.30,
8.00, 8.30 News 6.55, 7.35
Weather 7.45 Thought for the
Day 8.58 Weather 9.00 News
9.05 Election Call: 071-799 5000,
Jonathan Dimblety is joined by
John Major, the prime
minister. Lines open from 8am
10.00-10.30am News; Today's the
Day (FM only): Growing Pride,
Nei Walker and David Clayton
visit Sheila Clark's garden as it
opens to the public under the
National Garden Scheme
10.00 Daily Service (LW only): Amos.
Art Malk reads the second of
two selections from the
Authorised Version (s)

hwo selections from the Authorised Version (s) 10.30-12.00 Campaign Report (LW only), with John Humphrys 10.30 Woman's Hore (Filk only): Includes a discussion on wrestling, and arritem on westling, and arritem on vegetable gardening, Incl 11.00 News 11.30 Gardeners' Question Time (Filk only) Members of the 11.30 Gardeners' Question Time (PM only): Members of the Merioneth Horicultural Society in Dolgellau, Wales, pot their queries to the experts (r) 12.00 You and Yours 12.25pm Lord Edgware Dies: Fourth of a thre-part dramatisation of Agatha Christie's novel (s) 12.55 Weather

Weather
1.00 The World at One (LW only. from 1.40) 1.40 The Archers (FM only) (r) 1.55 Shipping Foreast

2.00 News; Ghosts from the Past:
Black Stockings and Broken
Mirrors. Bernadette
Crostitwaite's first play for

Crostiwaite's first play for radio stars Maureen O'Brien as Christine, who is haunted by a tragic accident when she mee's her new neighbour (Margot Boyd) (s) 2.47 Tressure Islands (r) 3.00-4.00 Campaign Report (LW orld) only)
3.00 Going Back (FM only): Omer in 1961 Omer Satteur, aged four, enegrated from British Guyana to London. Now a freelance writer, he returns to his native country (s) (r)

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast
5.55 Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Counterpoint (r)
7.00 Mews 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Costing the Earth (PM only):
Environmental magazine (r)
7.20 Wossan's Hour (LW only) (r)
7.45 Thorn in Our Flesh (FM only):
Dr lan Oliver, chief constable of the Grampian region,
describes the reaction of a policeman to the teaching of less.

8.00-9.00 Campaign Report (LW only) 8.00 Medicine Now (FM only) (r) 8.30-9.00 The Cutting Edge (FM

only)

CHOICE: Last week, in this important series about medical ethics; it was the case of the stroke victim and whether it ethics, it was the case of the stroke victim and whether it would have been merciful to let her die. Tonight, it is the case of the 23-week-old baby which a GP, working in an ambulance, stopped trying to resuscitate because he believed he had created "a braindamaged disaster" only to find that when the baby reached hospital, it was put on a werdiator. The baby had, in effect, returned from the dead, although it eventually died, and the mother's trauma resulted from having to cope with alternating despair and hope. We hear from doctor and mother tonight. Why do we not also hear from the hospital? (s)

we not also hear from the hospital? (s)

9.00 in Business: Peter Day examines the slump in the commercial property market

9.30 Kaleldoasope (s) (r)

9.45 The Financial World Tonight (s)

10.00 The World Tonight (s)

10.45 A Book at Bedtime: Love is Blue, by loan Wyncham. Read by Prunella Scales (8 of 10)

11.00 Carry on Up the Zastgelist (r)

11.30 Gerion Platform

12.00-12.43am Movez, incl 12.27

Weather 12.33 Shipping 12.43

World Service (LW Only)

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m;FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2.: Badio 3: FM-90.2-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m;FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m, LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. GUR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9, World Service: MW 648kHz/463m.

